

MAR '65.

THE BRITISH CROSBY SOCIETY

presents

CROSBY * POST

ON THE SEN-TI-MEN-TAL SIDE.

gay. laugh it off and say

"Fare - well," Say

in hopes you'll think it

o - ver And pe

of per - son

ON THE SEN-TI-MEN-TAL SIDE.

der why I'm SIDE.

International Circulation *

 * THE BRITISH CROSBY SOCIETY *
 * founded March 1950 *

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DECEMBER.....	" "	November 1st.

Contributors please note that ALL material should be sent DIRECT to
 the Editor not later than the material deadline for the next issue.
 Material arriving later will be held over.

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An X here **X** signifies that your renewal is now due - please forward
direct to JACK MANNERS making your cheque or P.O. payable to The British
 Crosby Society; British Isles 10/- Annually - Overseas Two Dollars/ 14/-;
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TORI

Just think, 15 years of Crosby Post gone by, and with the present rate of progress maintained, we look set for another 15 years - Like Der Bingle we've become an Institution and it's all due to the loyalty of a great bunch of fans - the best an artist and club could ever have - so here's to the future of the club, here's looking forward to your continued support, the garrantee of our future success.

As I amass the material for each issue of Crosby Post, it is becoming more and more obvious that one thing we shall never be short of is material - at 40 pages per issue, funds won't permit any more, but we could easily have gone on to about 50 this time - the amount of feature material supplied by you the club members, continues to grow, and I like that, I want more of that kind of material, so keep up the good work - there will of course, always be a place in the Post for re-prints, because so many re-prints I recieve, are news to me and I am sure to you also when you get to read them in the Post, but the articles that cause the most chatter are the ones you yourself write, so of course these are the ones that will usually recieve priority.

One thing I'd like you all to bear in mind, and this goes for the clubs officers as well, is that with increasing home and business comittments, and especially, an addition to the family expected shortly. My free time has been severely cut of late and I must insist upon the material deadlines for Post articles being strictly adhered too. I detest having to wield the big stick, but I'm sure you all appreciate that to type and print these stencils requires the utmost co-operation from all, and bearing in mind the lenth of time available, I'm sure I'm not being too unreasonable.

Having to yield to a catholic taste, I usually find it unavoidable to have to print articles and features in the Post which I don't personally agree with, and of course for obvious reasons I don't usually comment on this, but I feel I must make some form of protest in writing at some of the comments in the article on page 16 MELLOW IS HIS MID LE NAME - some of the comments by reporter Leslie Raddatz can certainly be denied by many in our own British circle who in the past years have had the special pleasure to spend many hours in Bing's company. Jack Manners will endorse my comments on a day in September 1961 when we arrived on the set of ROAD TO HONG KONG at Shepperton studios, Bing was actually on the set filming and he came over to the side to apologise for not being able to be with us right away, and when he did come over he went to great lengths to make us feel at home, even personally seeking a chair for Jack's wife Kit to sit on - other members can tell similar tales of Bing's charming approach to the ordinary person - and you must bear in mind that here is a man who has met them all, from the great in show business to the highest in diplomatic circles in most lands on the earth - I for one could never believe that Bing is much looser these days than he used to be - if anything, his years in show business would have hardened him to the personal touch that means so much to fans who meet him nowdays.

So to this months issue, hope you find the contents varied enough for your own personal taste - any comments either in praise or critical will always be welcome, and until we meet in June, my best to you and yours - Bing-cerely

Frank;

MARCH "CROZTALK"
presented by Jack Manners

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Hello again,

Hope you all had a good Christmas and thanks to all who sent cards.

We had good cause to feel contented with the Christmas fare provided by BBC both on radio and TV over the holiday, the highlight being HOLIDAY INN shown on the eve of Christmas. I would have preferred this on Christmas day as I imagine many people missed the film during the busy period of Christmas evening (Jack, see Tam ratings-Frank) - however for those of us who saw this classic it was quite a tonic to see those two greats Bing and Fred Astaire doing us proud, and to me it seemed like a breath of fresh air after some of the rather tepid films of late.

The disc-jockeys did a good stint on the pre-holiday days with a great number of Bing's Christmas standards, plus the newer ones, I particularly noted that CHRISTMAS CANDLES was played time and again and this one is really a beauty and will I feel add to the popularity of Bing at Christmastime in years ahead.

There is a little story behind CHRISTMAS CANDLES - Bing was getting ready to do the Christmas album and Bridget Brennan who is the nurse for Bing's children had recieved a letter from a friend of hers in Dublin who had written the song, asking if she could develop some interest in the song for a possible recording by Bing. So Bing did it as a favour to Bridget and her friend in Dublin. A nice action on the part of Bing and it is certainly a nice song.

THE ONE AND ONLY BING on the HOLLYWOOD AND THE STARS programme was most welcome and the only grumble here was the short time limit. 25 minutes was far too limited to show even a few of the highlights of a star of Bing's calibre - even so, it proved quite entertaining and most certainly served to keep our appetites whetted. THE ROAD TO ZANZIBAR duly followed much to my enjoyment and I hope yours and at the time of writing I am looking forward to that great film MISSISSIPPI on BBC2..

Apart from the offerings of Bing at Christmastime which all of us have come to expect, the average of Crosby records played throughout the year is very good considering the various forms of entertainment and new sounds''' combined with new names, it is really amazing how many new stars are made overnight - but an average of three or more Bing discs on the air a day is not really bad going considering Mr C is not as we may say 'the market' these days.

Apart from Frank Sinatra who still holds his own fairly well, there are not many good ballad singers around, certainly none in the Crosby class since the sad departure of Mike Holliday who had he lived, would I feel be a number one choice for many - so in all we must be grateful for the wealth of material Bing has amassed this half century to ensure he will be kept on top for many a long day to come.

It would be appreciated by me if all of you when receiving your Post to first look for the X which means your renewal is due p this may not seem important to a lot of you members who may be inclined to say "i'll send it later" but this is no help at all and leaves a doubt that the member concerned may have decided to drop out - and then your failure to renew early may mean that you miss the next issue of Post.

It should not be too long before the Capitol albums are released, I believe the first one is out in America and the second is completed. Also nice to know that the BBC have bought the weekly Bing TV series - these of course feature Bing as head of the Addams family-should be good entertainment,.

Until next time - - - - - Be good - Jack.

-----"A STOCKINFUL OF CROSBY" by -----
M. B. (Mick) DRURY, (A fugitive from Tape Crosby.)

My shopping completed, and my note to Santa fed into the Computer, (Our modern gas fire precludes the time honoured chimney type launch) I sat back to enjoy the fruits of the Season of Goodwill and to look through the programme papers of the X-Mass Media!!

Whats this, Bing on radio and on TV twice; "Wow" I thought, "This'll cause someone to whip off his Harding apron and have him Keeping everyone quiet..."

I mixed myself a drink, a Phythian (Ouch:) and later, having drunk it too quickly in my excitement, I murmured "Manners" and went off to do some work on our second TV set (It's a Murphy of course:) so that I could watch the shows in peace.

I've never had much success in repairing TV and this set had defied my previous onslaughts, but tonight, a few judicious tests and "Presto" (or should I say Bingo?) I was in business just in time to see Ken Mc Manus throw someone out of the ring, I beg your pardon, that was Mick Mc Manus. Well I knew it was one of those two Gladiators: Anyway the whites were whiter than white and I was all set.

Er: What started all this? Oh yes, I wanted to comment on what I thought was a great Crosby Christmas. I saw the TV but missed the radio, though I am told on good authority that the excerpts from the Autobiography were well chosen. HOLLYWOOD AND THE STARS was the highlight for me. A print of this film should be donated to the Society:

With THE ROAD TO ZANZIBAR scheduled for Jan 17th let's hope this is a BBC New Year Resolution, and one of ours should be a card of thanks to those responsible for the Christmas items.

By the way. If you think my write up is corny - you should hear me sing "Serenade to a Ferrograph" it would tear your nerves to Fred's!!

-----ooooo000oooo-----
CROSBY POST:.....:ADVERTISING RATES:.....

Full page.....	20/-
Half page.....	10/-
Quarter page.....	5/-
For anything less than a quarter page.....	2/6

Send your copy direct to the editor who will advise you of the ammount of space taken by your advert.

* Help your fellow
* collectors by
* advertsing in Crosby
* Post your wants
* and disposals of
* any of the following;
*
* Records (all artists)
* books, record players
* tape recorders etc

PUZZLE CORNERCunningly contrived by RALPH S. HARDING.

Hello again! Okay, okay ... so I made the last puzzle a little tough. You had all that spare time over Christmas to solve it. Anyway here are the answers ..

ACROSS

- 1 and 14 down. LOVE THY NEIGH
6. NIGHT
10. IN A BOOK
13. OPEN
15. EL RANCHO
19. EEL
20. SLAYER
22. OASIS
23. OWE
24. NEVER

25. LEG
26. FE
27. YODEL
29. NO
30. SHY
32. LESTER
34. AS
35. HALO
37. ATTEND
39. and 5 down YO HO

41. AGO
42. GLADNESS
43. JAVA
45. ERWIN
47. HEUSEM
49. EASTER
50. SEED
52. TER FROM (see 2 down)
53. TAP

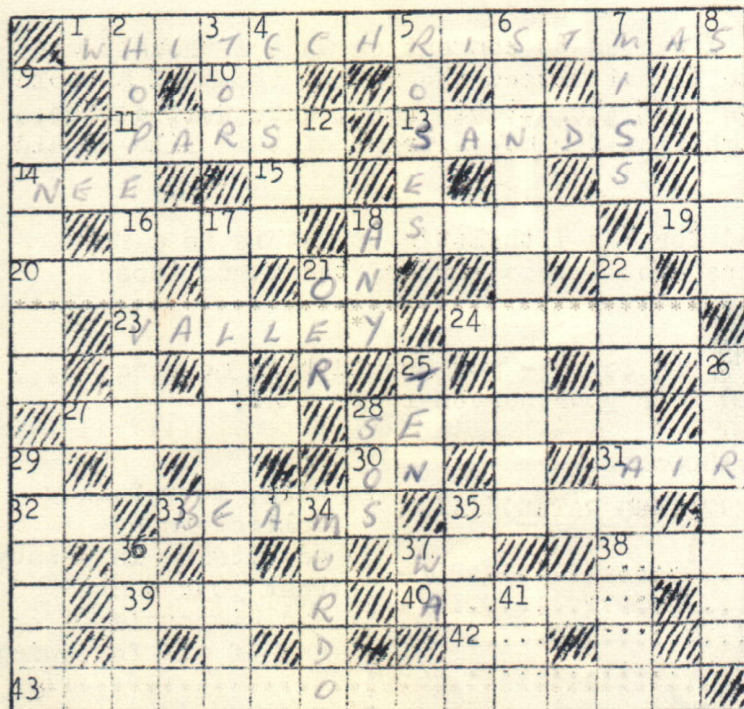
DOWN

1. LILY OF LAGUNA
2, 51 & 31 Down ONE SWEET LETTER
FROM YOU
3. VALLEY
4. TO
5. HO
6. NO
7. IPO ALOHA
8. GEESE
9. TULSA

10. BRA
12. KC
14. NEIGH
16. AYE
17. NEVER
18. HORNS
21. RELAYS
24. NOTED
28. DENNIS
30. SAGA

31. YOU
33. STARE
38. DENT
40. OSER
43. JUST
44. ANDY
46. WAR
47. HE
48. SEA
51. EP

And here's this POST'S PUZZLE submitted by FRED REYNOLDS our guest puzzler for this edition. Corner-ites will enjoy this one and please note that this effort compiled by FRED is uniform, i.e. the black squares form a correct symetric pattern. Any compiler knows that this adds to the compilation problems.

ACROSS

1. Although twisting harms this twice it proved very success-ful.
10. Famous thoroughfare possibly in the Movies.
11. Vacation city for Bing & Bob.
13. And between the vessel they are singing.
14. Mrs. Crosby ... Grandstaff.
15. Half of Cole's trio.
16. Ida's arrangement
18. The brisk movement in Bing's last Irish song.
19. The same as 32 across but exactly the reverse.
20. In "Imagination" our French friend returns.
21. The end of "Cabin in the Cotton".
23. Sounds like an early rival of Bing's.
24. Disarmed just around the corner.

ACROSS continued

27. Hardly descriptive of "Empty Saddles" 28. Constantinople group.
 30. Before the Alamo. 31. Londonderry's for Danny Boy.
 32. "Paradise Isle" is paradise removed and what's left is upset.
 33. Follow the sun for a vocal effort when Bing was a Taxi-driver.
 35. "Darling, Je Vous Aime Beaucoup" - language which includes this by design.
 37. We're a couple of soldiers right from the start.
 38. High time to do this at a Harvey Howard establishment.
 39. Willow for Bing's confused radio Co-Star.
 40. "I Can't Begin To Tell You" starts with an arrangement of it.
 42. Bing advised its elimination.
 43. A Long trip Bing started in 1925 (in 2 down) and finally made in 1933(2 wds)

DOWN

2. 1925 car inscription which prophetically flattered Bob (2 words, 4-6)
 3. TV play with high recommendation.
 4. Now that you're gone?
 5. Whoever gave them they must have been Clooney's.
 6. Rustic version of "I'm Crazy Over You" (Bing's on the side)
 7. Surely Annabelle was just the opposite?
 8. A hundred trees make one and Bing advises its retention.
 9. In "Zing A Zong" a St.Aloysius establishment is demolished.
 12. "Let's do it" untitled.
 17. Ready response to a plea from Bing (2 words, 2-9)
 18. Indefinite - but Mandy no longer has the Doctor.
 21. "Old Black Joe" recording has over poetical reference.
 22. Resounding in 23 (3 words, 4-2-4) 25. Five bargains?
 26. Inveterate road traveller. 28. Distressful call from Bing's "O Sole Mio"
 29. We are informed that now it won't (2 words, 2-4)
 34. Rum do for the producer. 35. Heavenly bounty. 36. Sam's all right at heart.
 37. Initially part of the trio's number came from West Africa.
 41. Part of the tower Bing built.

Well there you have it friends ... Please try and beat old Fred!

Now for a change, here's something new. And there's a prize ... YES, MONEY !!!
 I've always had a bit of a giggle over the albums that Recording Companies churn
 out (Ken McManus please note) and in my wildest dreams I imagine such things as
 GRACIE FIELDS SINGS THE BEATLES or SINATRA'S NURSERY RHYMES FOR MOSCOVITES. Well
 here are a few of my own efforts dreamed up during a manic depressive state ...

SONGS FOR SWINGING JOCKEYS

What kind of foal am I

Aintree Sweet

Big Horse I love you (Because I love you)

Marion fell off (Marrying for love)

SONGS FOR SWINGING SEX MANIACS

What is this thing called? - Love.

I have often walked on the streets before

Let me go, let me go, let me go .. Mother.

You Do ...???

SONGS FOR SWINGING CANNIBALS

So long, It's been good to gnaw you

To eat his own

Oh dear, who can the batter be

All of me, why not bake all of me

SONGS FOR SWINGING DWARFS

I'm looking under a 4 leaf clover

Climb the highest toadstool

The touch of your lips upon my knee

I'm Henry the 8th

Okay, you get the idea ...? I'll offer a half a guinea or five assorted Bing
 records (sent to you post free) ... take your choice ... for the best effort
 for the following albums:- SONGS FOR SWINGING REPROBATES. SONGS FOR SWINGING
 SINNERS. SONGS FOR SWINGING COWBOYS. SONGS FOR SWINGING EDITORS. SONGS FOR
 SWINGING HOUSEWIVES. SONGS FOR SWINGING DRUG ADDICTS. Just one album and take
 your choice of titles ... you have six to choose from. The Editor FRANK MURPHY
 will judge so send all entries to him. And the best of British luck.

by FRED REYNOLDS

It was extremely edifying to learn from his article in the December "Post" that Ken McManus writes "straight from the shoulder" and makes his offerings "right from the heart". This is interesting because some of us have been under the distinct impression that much of what he has said came direct from his nape. An engaging prospect is now spread before us: dare we hope for some future compositions from his coccyx, articles from his armpit, reflections from his renal region or even a few notes from his navel which, we suppose, he would meanwhile regard in Buddha-like contemplation? The possibilities are endless and speculation by minds more imaginative than mine should produce some useful ideas. I am sure that Ralph Harding would have little difficulty in making constructive suggestions some of which, I shouldn't be surprised, no self-respecting editor would ever dream of publishing. To leave for the moment, however, these absorbing anatomical anticipations let us consider Ken's past clavicular and cardiacal contributions.

The more one reads his articles the more evident it becomes that they are intended to provoke rather than demonstrate accuracy or objectivity. He says that I never mentioned Bing's name in my letter and that I "blew my top". (As neither of these statements happens to be right or true they probably emanated from his left fib.) Then, after an article in which he "defends the record companies", he grumbles that criticism is not confined to particular points of his own choosing. As most of the things he originally mentioned were trivial I preferred to discuss the much more important and wider issue, a fact which I thought he would appreciate even if he didn't agree with my views. Subsequently he has provided no convincing or cogent evidence to refute my charges and has produced only specious arguments to support his own opinions. He disregards facts with the ease and cheerfulness of a politician.

When Ken compares criticism of the early Bing with that of the present "beat" groups the complete answer is that Bing has proved his detractors wrong and has endured until today. If Ken seriously supposes for one instant that the "beat" boys, ringing the full changes on a gamut of three or four chords, will be in professional existence thirty years hence then I fear that once again he is not being very perceptive. At the last count there were 11,000 "beat" groups in this country (just think how many mattresses their hair would stuff) and Ken's peculiar and irrelevant plaint that they "work hard" arouses in most right-thinking citizens an earnest desire that this labour should be directed into more useful, if less well-paid, channels.

Is not Ken living too close to his subject to see it with detachment? The answer becomes painfully obvious when he claims credit for the record companies because they use some of their gains to purchase new plant. Has he never heard of "ploughing back the profits" in order to effect even more? This is sound business practice and not beneficence. (Or did Ken bring forth this extraordinary view from his cheek?)

When he asserts that "pop sales help to subsidise the issue of the better class of record" he really means that the latter makes less profit. My authority for this statement is no less a person than Sir Joseph Lockwood (see my "Dr. Fancy" article in December "Post") and I don't think that even Ken would have the temerity to deny that the B.M.T. chairman may know a little more than Ken does about the financial returns. Taking advantage of children and adolescents cannot be justified morally, ethically or any other way and the old, old platitude that the rubbish turned out by the factory-load can be vindicated by such alleged subsidy just cannot be accepted. (If Ken had a "blind eye" I would swear that's where he produced this from). In any case who wants to hear twenty or thirty items of rubbish in order, perhaps, to hear one recording of merit? No Ken, the odds are too long for me. I would rather have to pay more for my

records if by so doing it would ensure that the youngsters were no longer made the victims of financial interests. It would be well worth it to be rid of the stranglehold that base standards now have on all mass-media entertainment. This, however, will not happen until the recording industry becomes less cynical and acquires some scruples which is very unlikely while Britain's youngsters can be pressured into spending well over a quarter of a million pounds per week on "pop" records. It seems, too, to have conveniently been forgotten that the policy over the last ten years or so of creating and promoting such worthless material has in itself succeeded in forcing to the background the better type of popular music. We are thus faced with the Gilbertian situation that we are being told to credit "pop" for the privilege of being able to enjoy the very music it has so largely ousted.

As for Ken's activities in promoting the Club's well-being he is to be applauded for his efforts. I don't think, however, after his personal "boost" (as he called it) and auto-biographical notes (lines from his liver?) that he can any longer claim to be "behind the scenes". I would be surprised if his emergence as a minor "enfant terrible" and his brief hour in the limelight has not given him some pleasure and I for one do not begrudge it. I shall look forward to more articles from him on other subjects but might I, in a nice way of course, suggest that his sermons come in future from that part of his anatomy which has so far been under-employed - the cerebrum?

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THE CHARTS

Recent opinions which have appeared about the "pop" scene prompt a few remarks about the "charts" which (I quote) "have assumed an importance in their field comparable only with pre-election polls".

Future engagements of pop recording groups and the size of their fees depend largely on whether they make the Top Twenty or even the Top Fifty. Managers' and agencies' earnings also depend on the success of their clients. A way to get them into the charts was demonstrated by Mr. Brian Epstein who owned three record shops in Liverpool. To persuade EMI to record the Beatles in their unfashionable days, he guaranteed to buy several thousand copies of their first recording and this first put the Beatles into the charts. The threat to the genuineness of the record polls is thus very apparent and lies in exploiting a method of getting talentless clients into the charts and the big money. The number of records involved need not be big: a sale of 10,000 in one week will generally put a record at least among the top thirty.

The two major charts go largely by reported demand from a sample of retail shops. Only organisation and financial outlay is required to "influence" the sample and the reported demand can never be accepted as genuine. Hence apparent wild variations in popularity each week which is wrongly attributed to the fickleness of the market. The process of chart manipulation sometimes happily becomes self-defeating and several tours of highly placed recording "stars" have flopped expensively.

FRED REYNOLDS

Contributors to Crosby Post are reminded that the closing date for material and adverts for the next issue is MAY 1ST and NO material can be accepted after that date

Have YOU written in lately to request a favourite Bing record on the air???

"I'm resigning" announced young Roy Peacock to the manager of the speedway team at Liverpool's Stanley Stadium. The manager was not perturbed, even though he was losing one of his star riders. Roy had been singing ever since he left school, but his love for the thrills of riding and his determination to make a success in show business had prompted him, until then, to combine two careers.

As a speedway rider he appeared on tracks at Belle Vue, Fleetwood, Glasgow, Halifax etc, and once rode for England in a junior international. He took his riding so seriously that critics forecast that one day he would be in the running for world championship honours,.

Though delighted with his sons prospects, Mr Peacock, who himself had once been a speedway rider, encouraged him to develop his singing. For he believed that Roy would make an even better name for himself as a singer, and events are proving him right.

At 16 Roy adopted the name of Al Phillips - after his two idols, Al Jolson and bandleader Sid Phillips, and entered a talent competition. He won and later started appearing in clubs in Manchester. Since those days Rpy, now 25 has sung in many local ballrooms, taken part in cabaret and shared the bill at concerts with such established stars as Ken Dodd, Joan Regan and Edmund Hockridge etc. His impersonation of Al Jolson has been a winner. He has also featured as a star vocalist with the band of his idol Sid Phillips and it was during this stint that to avoid confusion he changed his name to Roy Chappell, after nting the latter name on a piano. After several stints with the band Roy decided that speedway riding offered less than singing and is now a fully fledged solo performer

Roy has never had a singing lesson in his life; he is one of those rare people with a natural talent and his relaxed voice, personality and poise have attracted the attention of a major recording company.

Hobbies; He collects old sheet music - stacks of it and he avidly collects the records of Bing Crosby, Al Jolson and Perry Como, but doesn't copy them, though he admits to being influenced by them "I'm trying to develop my own personality by singing in a manner as relaxed as theirs" says Roy

The B.C.S. wishes Roy every success and don't worry about coming 2nd in the comp Roy - remember Bing came second in a Bing Crosby comp in the early 30's

* ROY CHAPPELL *



"A TOUCH OF THE BING'S"

Here for all you 'Budding Crosby's is the
SINGING CONTEST RESULTS from BOB ROBERTS

17 entries were recieved for the contest and the standard of singing was extremely high. I enjoyed playing every tape but at the back of my mind I was glad that I did not have the difficult task of judging the entries.

Each entry was numbered, and the judge did not know the names of the entrants until the judging was completed. This seemed the fairest way.

The judging was done by that well known Crosby Collector, ERIC GRIFFITHS and he too commented on the very high quality of the recordings and the high standard of the actual singing. After listening to all the entries he chose the following as the winners;

- 1st..Entry No 4....W Oldfield "Once in a While"
 2nd..Entry No 14...Roy Chappell "Alexanders ragtime Band"
 3rd..Entry No 16...Don Tremlett "For all I Know"

The percentage of marks scored for the winning entries were -; 90%: 88%; and 86% respectively. Points were awarded for originality, recording quality and the actual performance of the competitor and it is interesting to notethat the remaining entries all scored between 48% and 84%.

On behalf of the Crosby Society I would like to thank each and every one of you for your co-operation in making this contest a success - all tapes will be returned in due course.....Bob Roberts.

Frank Murphy writes;

At my request Bob sent me all the tapes entered in the competition and I thoroughly enjoyed playing them through and selecting the ones I liked best to play at one of our Northern group meetings - I would like to be associated with Bob's closing comments and to thank Bob and Eric most sincerely for the time, effort and trouble they took to ensure a careful descision - and I'm sure they will both want to join me in sending a special thank you to Tony Gilmartin for suggesting the whole thing and thus raising a very useful £2 for club funds.....Here's to the next Singing contest.....

CROSBY AND THE JAZZ SCENE ***** TED LAKER PRESENTS "THE MAGIC VOICE" ***** B I N G ***** CROSBY AND THE JAZZ SCENE *****

Every so often one comes across a few comments from Bing on his liking for music in the Jazz idiom, not really surprising when one thinks of his early days in the Whiteman Band, and his own groups whilst still at college.

It has been said more than once, that to this day Crosby is still down as a drummer on some musicians registers in the States. I remember reading of the satisfaction he gained from listening to records made by the fine KING OLIVER BAND and other units of the classic Jazz era. Also it goes without saying that Bing has always admired and listened extensively to the old Jazz master Louis Armstrong.

Ted continues on page 12

* ted laker continues
 * CROSBY AND THE JAZZ SCENE
 *

The thought has often passed through my mind, as to how often the name of Bing Crosby has dropped up during the course of several books detailing the life stories of famous Jazz men, to name just a few at random WE CALLED IT MUSIC wherein EDDIE CONDON tells a tale or two of Bing's formative years. REALLY THE BLUES contains more unusual Bing pieces. If I recall rightly this one details the story of a juke box laden with jazz discs in a swing dive, the only exception being Crosby waxings.

It's nice to see these out of the ordinary pieces on Bing relating to his early days finding their place in Jazz history.

BUGLES FOR BEIDERBECKE being the story of the legendary BIX offers a few mentions of the Crosby talents during the Whiteman days, there's also some space devoted to the making of THE KING OF JAZZ designed to originally be a showcase for the Paul Whiteman aggregation, but became eventually just another musical, no derision meant, as there was certainly some great talent aboard. But most critics agreed it could have been so much much better. I believe only sections of the film have been preserved, but this report could be wrong. Let's hope a complete version of the film is still around somewhere

All these items discovered mainly by chance certainly make interesting reading and it's easy to see how working with such music makers as THE DORSEY'S VENUTI AND LANG, BIX, TOY BARGY and others, how Bing acquired and has kept that fine sense of rhythm, the easy going swingy way with a song, when called for.

I have always appreciated the spots in films where Bing's talents in this direction are utilised, one thinks especially of BIRTH OF THE BLUES with the music of JACK TEAGARDEN and others giving the Crosby voice some fine backings. The records with "SATCHMO" have always been great, pity that there aren't more of them. The old radio shows always seemed to feature a couple of jazzy numbers employing such people as RED NICHOLS, more ARMSTRONG, JOE VENUTI, THE FIREHOUSE FIVE, to mention just a few.

In films we still have the Jazz flavoured items, the MR BOOZE sequence for instance, and a few years ago HIGH SOCIETY contained a host of good things. Even the otherwise almost serious LITTLE BOY LOST had an up-tempo rendering of DARK TOWN STRUTTERS BALL sung in French.

I for one hope that the swingy style Crosby vocals will always play a prominent part in his repertoire, and of course to show that they are, we have the eagerly awaited Jazz flavoured albums promised for the near future.

.....Ted Laker.....

CLIPPINGS FROM THE PRESS

THE PEOPLE.S NDAY FEB 7th
 "Coming up strong are the oldsters
 with MARLENE DIETRICH with "GO AWAY
 FROM MY WINDOW" and BING CROSBY with
 WHERE THE BLUE OF THE NIGHT" - must
 be a re-issue.....JIMMY SAVILE.....

Following a letter from your editor,
 Jimmy replied:-

"Hi Frank, Like I said, this is a
 reissue of Bing's original. It's
 as great as ever,

Jimmy.

BING AND KATHRYN SAY "THANKS FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS GIFTS"

BING CROSBY-HOLLYWOOD - December 29. 1964

Dear Jack,

Thank you and The British Crosby Society for the very attractive Humidor which arrived recently for me as a Christmas gift.

Tell them all how much I appreciate it.

Give my best to everybody,

Yours

Bing

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BING CROSBY-HOLLYWOOD - Dec 30. 1964

Dear Mr Manners,

Thank you for the beautiful, beautiful bag that you sent me. I am so happy with it and as you suggested Bing doesn't mind my receiving it from you at all.

I thoroughly agree with you, his voice is better this year than it's ever been - or perhaps our ears are becoming more accustomed to his vocal outpourings.

We had a wonderful warm Christmas. We hope yours was just as nice and that the New Year will be full of all good things.

Sincerely

Kathryn Crosby.

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FROM THE CROSBY TIPPED PEN OF LESLIE GAYLOR - HERE'S "CROSBY CHATTER"

Hello members,

Here we are once again, but little if any fresh news to report.

First of all I would like to say that I thoroughly enjoyed the last issue of Crosby Post, it was really great indeed and I feel sure our thanks are due to those who put so much effort into producing it.

I liked very much the views as expressed by Fred Reynolds, Ken Mc Manus and Ralph Harding regarding the disc companies, this made fine reading. Myself I would just like to comment that in their lust for business, the disc people are no longer interested in the type of artists and records managers whose sole interest was the producing of good records - Any tuppenny ha'penny fellow can record a load of junk and the record bosses may buy up the tape. However as expressed in Crosby Post, the large sales of junk records do help to subsidize records of better quality but lesser selling potential and record companies exist for business.

Les continues on page 14

BOOK KEEPING ANALYSIS

 LESLIE GAYLOR

 * continues *
 =====

From some correspondence I once had with bandleader Cyril Stapleton over Bing records, he wrote to me that the record concerns didn't care whether the records they issued were by "Charlie Rhubarb" or "Bing Crosby", as profit was the dominating factor.

I feel sure we all agree that it's the "Charlie Rhubarb's" who catch the teenagers' ears these days and that errand boys are writing the songs instead of whistling them (very well put Les..Frank)

A letter of some five years ago that I had from Bing clearly gives his views as to the state of the disc business - Bing reckons that in the States there are thousands of 'fly by night' record companies who record any artist, any singer, any musician, and if any interest develops they go ahead with full exploitation.

Bing says that for him to compete with such fierce opposition is really ill advised, and therefore he has cut down on recording, which is much to our regret.

Another point of interest is that Bing says he is not familiar with methods of release and distribution of his records once he's made them. He did agree with me at Shepperton that when he did 'call it a day' he reckoned unissued recordings of his would be bought up and many for issue. There are scores of recordings for radio shows he's done that have never 'aired' at all.

I feel sure that everyone will be immensely pleased with the Bing films on the BBC and I note that HOLLYWOOD AND THE STARS went down very well.

One or two members and non members of our Society have written to me re USA albums of Bing's - Please contact TransAtlantic Record Agency, 5 Tara Str, Dublin, Ireland for a very fine service indeed.

Once again I'd like to congratulate all those who produced part two of THE ROAD TO BING CROSBY - a wonderful discography indeed and very informative

I would like to contact anyone who has a good contact in Italy as I wish to get a single which was released over there some months ago. I first heard of it a year ago, followed things through to Italy, then a dead end left me to make the next move which I didn't carry out owing to my being very lax. I have only briefly told one person about it as I wanted to be the first person to get a copy. My friend has heard it in Italy and Bing tells me he done some tapes and he even gave me the name of a great friend of his in Italy to write to to follow the record up, but no luck - I can't even get the titles, but I have details of one of them and I know when they were taped. A Swiss maid at the Hotel Villa Deste played the recording to my friend and took it to Switzerland with her.

Did any member see the piece in the Daily Mail on Jan 27 in which Sir Joseph Lookwood, Chairman of EMI said that sales of the Beatles records were equal to more than 100,000,000 single sales and that they had sold more records in two years than Bing Crosby had in 40 years.

Very misleading indeed and I wrote to the eminent Sir Joseph pointing out his error and telling him that I was simply amazed that as he was one of

the recording industry's chief spokesman, he should be so mis-informed - Now I know what they mean by being under the spell of Beatlemania.

I would like to say that I have had more success with some request records played on the radio. Jimmy Young spun me one track on his late night show, and as per everyone else he announced Bing's huge record sales - fine plugs indeed for the 'Old Master'.

In closing I hope it won't be long before we get the two Capitol albums, and I am waiting to hear from the Producer of the records as to when they will be available.

I see Bing's Christmas card this year is a real beauty, a fine family portrait including Remus the dog,

Best wishes to all

Leslie Gaylor.

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TED LAKER SAYS "WATCH OUT FOR A SUPPORTING FILM GOING THE ROUNDS TITLED "A LIFETIME OF COMEDY" BING IS FEATURED IN IT.....enough said Ted - thanks.

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For many years Pat Sullivan's regular feature has topped Crosby Post's feature poll - this month Pat has supplied yet another zizzling news packed feature for Post readers.

FROM THE U.S.A. . . . PAT SULLIVAN PRESENTS HER TOP RATED "AMERICAN NEWSLETTER"

FEATURE STORY'S INCLUDE "WHERE BING GET'S THAT ZING" "MELLOW IS HIS MIDDLE NAME" and great news on BING'S NEW WEEKLY TV SERIES - now over to our gal Pat.-

Hi Frank and club members, here we go with this months newsletter-;

BING FOUND L.A. TOO BIG. SAN FRANCISCO CALL BULLETIN - 6/Jan/1965

Bing Crosby who seldom gets ruffled at anything, evidenced brief irritation over a recent magazine story that said that he had mellowed after years of being a difficult star.

"Hell, I hav'nt changed in 40 years" he muttered. His face is lean and unlined his manner affable. At 60 he presents a figure of a man content with his life and work. Unlike his earlier career, Bing lives and works in different worlds. He and his wife Kathryn and their three children live in Hillsborough.

"The system has worked out very well indeed" he said, "I fly down here on a Friday afternoon. I live near the airport, so that's no problem. The flight takes 45-50 minutes. It's just like commuting from Long Island to Manhattan"

"I do that for a couple of weeks and then I get a week off"

Why did he move to the Northland. "Actually I'm more here than I used to be when I had a house in town" he said "But I moved up North for a littler quieter living, Los Angeles is doing great things, such as Buff Chandler's new music centre, which is a magnificent accomplishment, the city is getting bigger all the time - a little too big for me - I like it up North, I can drive downtown in a few minutes and walk around and get to know the storekeepers - yes the

..Innkeepers too. It's nice to feel you are part of a community. We have lot's of friends up there, mostly people I had known before we moved up. It's easy to drive up to San Francisco. We go to the opera a couple of times a year, and Kathy likes the ballet. There are plenty of dinners and parties, in fact we have to be careful or you could be going out every night. Golf? there's a course right near our house, so we don't really lack anything".

The Crosby kids will go to school up North, he said. Harry is in first grade and Mary Frances is in kindergarten.

"But she's skipping to the first grade" Bing added "She knows too much and the teacher had to spank her three times for showing off her knowledge to the other kids".

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THE CROSBY TOURNAMENT - Jottings;

Some 10,000 golf nuts' turned out bundled to the ears in thermal underwear and rain gear to root for their favourite and prompted host Bing Crosby to say, "The surprising and wonderful thing about it is that the fans don't really seem to mind the weather at all, they came prepared for it and they seem to enjoy it"

Bing toured the course and showed up in half a dozen galleries, using a seven iron as a walking stick.

Bing muffled in a trench coat, rust slacks, boots, alpine hat and carrying a blue umbrella, made the rounds, as did his wife Kathy. His golf cart was followed by hordes of young autograph hunters and so many of them hopped on to the rear of the cart that at one point it became stuck in the mud...

===== * =====
 "MELLOW IS HIS MIDDLE NAME" ==*== That's what they're saying about Bing Crosby
 ===== * These days, but, despite the legend, it has'nt
 ==by==Leslie Raddatz===== always been so.=====

Sauntering across the soundstage, the familiar figure looks pretty much the same as ever-jaunty cap atop bald pate, characteristic pipe slanting casually from side of mouth, loose-hanging cardigan and inconspicuously tailored slacks draped on the smallish frame, which is, if anything, slimmer than it used to be. The c'lan is still there and, only slightly diminished, the legendary voice. But everything is not the same. Harry Lillis Crosby (Mr and Mrs Lillis were old friends of the family) is a changed man as he works in his first weekly TV series THE BING CROSBY SHOW on ABC.

For one thing, at an admitted 60-but actually 63-with a young wife and growing second family in a new home far from Hollywood, he has, undubitably, mellowed. Those about him notice the difference. They say things like, "He's much looser than he used to be" and "Mellow is his middle name nowdays"

(Of course, he has always seemed to be mellow, but underneath the surface was an almost constant tension. caused perhaps by the necessity of having to maintain the image which the public had learned to know and to expect. The real Crosby was aloof, hidden somewhere far behind the genial facade. According to reporter Bob Thomas "Crosby's iron curtain would make Joe Stalin seem like a chatterbox. (He has) a chilling stare that is a masterpiece". Bing biographer Barry Ulanov wrote, "As warm as his stage screen and air personality was, his talk and gestures and expression of personal feelings were cold...To his intimates, Bing is the Enigma.

Once scheduled to sit at the head table at a Friars Club dinner honoring Bob Hope, Bing did not even bother to show up. The writer of the old Kraft Music Hall on radio, Carroll Carroll is generally given credit for developing the glib, hip, polysyllabic Crosby public personality. Bing did not address Carroll by first or last name during the first six months the programme was on the air. Crosby's late crony, Barney Dean said of him once, "Though he likes everybody, he doesn't like everybody around him". and another friend, composer Jimmy Van Heusen, has said "There must be something in him that no one has fathomed out yet")

Bing relaxes in a canvass backed chair and answers the question that everybody is asking these days; "Why am I doing this series? - I have to do something. I wanted to stay in the business and there didn't seem to be any feature pictures available. I have all those people working for me in Bing Crosby Productions. When they say, "How about you doing a show for us?" what are you going to say, "Go to hell"? - I still have time to play golf, hunt and fish. But there are certain things I have to do.

Bing does five TV shows in three weeks and then takes two weeks off. "The kids on the show get a little draggy after three weeks" he says "And it helps old dad too". The weeks he works he flies to Hollywood on Monday morning from his home, a 25 room Tudor-style mansion on three acres of land adjoining a golf course at Hillsborough, Cal. In Hollywood he stays at the Sheraton-West, an unshowbusiness hostelry. On the set by 7.30 every morning, he does not leave before 7.30 in the evening. Come Friday he flies home for the weekend, and then on Monday begins the whole routine again.

As he talks a pianist plays softly in the background. Bing explains "There's so much music on the show, we keep him around all the time". He sings a few bars of the Cole Porter song the pianist is playing. His voice, which has probably been heard by more people than any voice in history, is deeper now. Someone who has been close to Crosby for years says. "He's singing better than ever"

(In 1939 Bing explained the physical phenomenon that gave his voice its distinctive quality "They call it a singers node, and its a sort of corn or callus on the vocal chords. Thats what gives my voice the husky notesand funny slurs". In 1947 Frank Conniff wrote in the New York Journal-American that "Some of the charter members of the Crosby Chowder and Picketing Club have been hinting that the master had lost his touch". Two years later writer George Frazier said that Bing's voice had "Deteriated so rapidly that his present offerings sound like a clumsy and presumptuous parody of the witchery he used to exert in other years". Crosby retorted "So what? I never claimed I could sing in the first place")

Speaking of an episode of The Bing Crosby Show in which his eldest son Gary appeared, Bing's eyes light up and he looks like any other proud father; "The shows called 'Exactly Like Who?' and Gary's very good in it. He dressed up like me, hat, pipe and all". Another Crosby boy, Dennis, one of the twins, is with Bing Crosby Productions, attached to the Ben Casey program (The company also produces 'Slattery's People' which is on opposite Casey) As for his other two grown sons Bing says "They're just floating around underground someplace. At least they're not in trouble - that's something" He laughs as he says it, but the light has gone out of his eyes.

Red headed Diana Sherry, the 12 year old who plays Bing's youngest daughter says "Mr Crosby got me tickets for the Beatles concert at Hollywood bowl and

Pat continues on page 19

Here's Bing's TV clan — Bev Garland, top left; Carol, right; Diane and buddy Frank McHugh.



TOP

HERE, according to TAM (Television Audience Measurement Ltd.), are the 10 most popular programmes in the North-East area for the week ending December 27, 1964:

- 1 *Coronation Street* (Wednesday, December 23) 65
- 2 *My Favourite Martian* 62
- 3 *Coronation Street* (Monday, December 21) 61
- 4 *The Detectives* 57
- 5 *Christmas Comedy* (Deep and Crisp and Stolen) 56
- 6 *Battle of The River Plate* (film) 56
- 7 *The Fugitive* 54
- 8 *Crane* 52
- 9 *It's Tarbuck!* 52
- 10 *Holiday Inn* (film) (BBC) 50

FEEL

..also for their party. It was so neat! Ringo stepped on my toe and I got two cigarets Paul smoked. My girl friend ate one"

Bing says "Frank Sinatra was 20 times bigger than I ever was and Presley was bigger than Sinatra, but there's never been anything like the Beatles before".

Then he talks about his own daughter, five-year-old Mary Frances, and his eyes light up again; "I named my boat after her - the Mary Francesca. I had small pins made to give to people who go out fishing with me and I gave one of them to her. She and six year old Harry are terribly jealous of each other. When he came in she held her hand over her chest where I'd put the pin so he wouldn't see it. Harry asked her what she was hiding. She said nothing '-I'm pledging allegiance to the flag'".

Bing's courtship of Kathryn Grant was marked by a rare slippage of the Crosby facade. The summer before their marriage, she abruptly left the Hayden Lake place where she had been visiting, after published speculation that they were about to wed. When questioned about these plans, Bing somewhat ungallantly said "How could I? I have a big golf game Saturday". Now however, Kathryn and their three children are given much of the credit for Bing's latterday mellowing. But someone who has known him all his life says "When you're not going to be here a hell of a lot longer, you may as well have people like you."

And therein lies the irony of Bing Crosby. Probably few men have been more universally loved. To the man in the street, he is an old and valued friend, and every disc jockey and columnist in the country refers to him affectionately and familiarly by his first name or as "The Old Groaner" or "Der Bingle". Yet he is a man who has always kept his distance, who, according to one observer "lives within himself" and who has said of himself "I don't think I've ever done anything really worthwhile")

It is almost time for the next scene, someone approaches, leans down and says something to Bing in a low voice. The old crooner smiles and says "I guess I'll have to put the hair on". He gets up and saunters towards his dressing room-a living legend about to don a legendary toupee.

00000)(00000

DIANE SHERRY-CAROL FAYLEN

TWO NEW DAUGHTERS FOR BING

=====

THEY'RE WILD ABOUT THEIR "NEW DAD"

=====

"I can't believe all this is happening to me, I feel like I'm dreaming a wonderful magical dream" sang 12 year old Diane Sherry, her carrot-colored hair framing a pixieish face in which huge blue eyes reflected the wonder she felt. "It's just too great to understand", Carol Faylen, 15, responded, her voice breaking into excited giggles as she thought of the fairyland existence into which she was now entering.

On a sunny afternoon the two girls chosen to be Bing Crosby's daughters on his new half hour comedy series sat in a Hollywood restaurant with this reporter chattering like two animated song birds about their good fortune.

"I'll never forget the first time I met Mr Crosby" Diane smiled "He was so nice to me, So wonderful" "And Beverley Garland too" Carol added "I just love the thought that she's my second mother."

=====More from Pat on page 20=====

Has Bing found the fountain of youth far down Mexico way? Or did he bring it with him along with Kathy and their three toddlers?

 *****WHERE BING GETS THAT ZING*****

Sixty years young and flolicksome as a colt - that's Bing Crosby, as you can see in these ultra candid with his second family! How does he do it? How does Bing re-charge those million dollar batteries which have made him the greatest of Groaners, liveliest of grandads and doting father of three toddlers. We found the answer here in Baja California - that Mexican peninsula which on the map looks like a rugged extension of our own Gold Rush state. Here's where Bing built his vacation hideaway, high-on-a-mountian top near the tiny village of Las Cruces. And the old maestro grins like a boy at the mere thought of flying here with the family.

Back in Hollywood, Bing's known as a perfectionist who works as hard as he plays. He was a strict disciplinarian when his four oldest sons were growing up - though Gary, Phillip and Dennis and Lindsay have been pretty much on their own since they married and become fathers too. And he can be something of a slave driver at the TV studios, turning out such series as Ben Casey and his own new Bing Crosby Show (ABC TV Mon 9.30 PM EDT) though the 'slaves' rebelled when he wanted to complete six months filming in three. It could'nt be done. But Bing will try almost anything to spend at least three months a year away from it all. He knows there's more to being young than looking it or acting it. You have to think young - and the best way to do that is to surround your self with youth! Looking at Kathy and the kids, the years roll away. It's the springtime of the world, all over again.

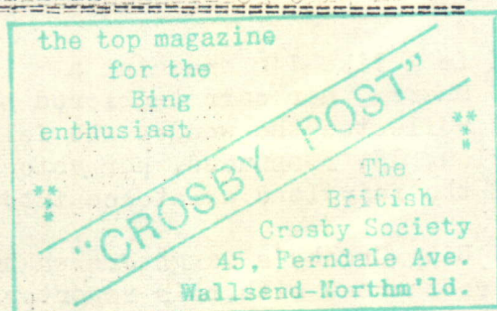
What does Kathy think? She loves getting away with Bing to Baja, too. "The children thrive here" she smiles wisely, "And it's so good for Bing! It's almost impossible for anyone to reach him here - even by telephone"

That's how Bing wants it - the world at long distance, his family close at heart

=====American Newsletter - Sign Off=====

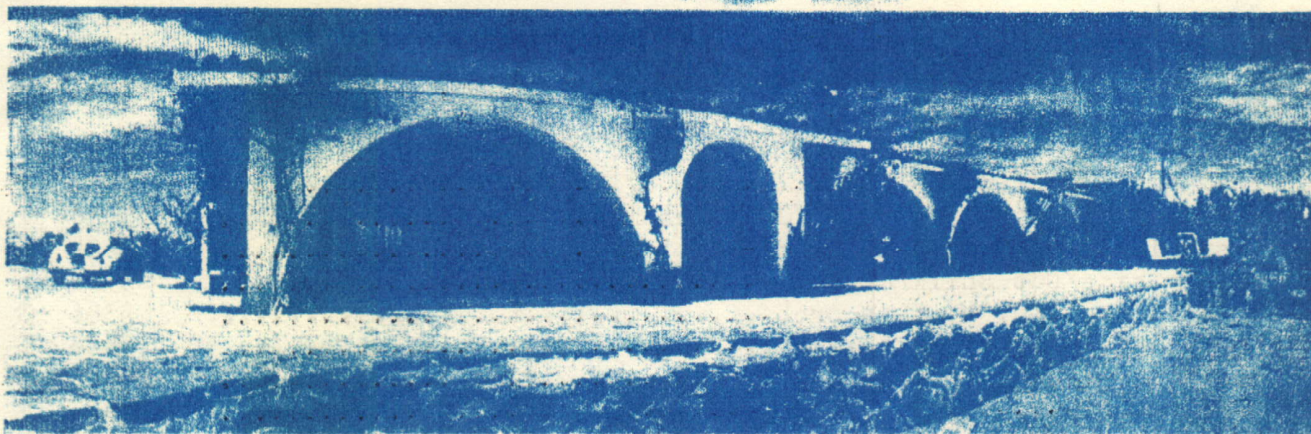
AN IDEA THAT SHOULD SPECIALLY APPEAL TO LETTER WRITING MEMBERS OF OURS:

Advertise Crosby Post by using envelopes bearing the club stamp



Supplies are now available for all registered club members only

On the left you see a re-production of a new stamp we recently purchased and bearing in mind that future club activity will centre more and more around CROSBY POST we think it a good idea to advertise and spread the word around as much as possible - Now club members can take part in this plan by buying supplies of envelopes direct from us and bearing this club stamp in the top left hand corner - the size of the envelopes is the handy size of 9 X 4 and they can be obtained by writing direct to Frank Murphy enclosing the price of 4/9d per 100



CASA CROSBY is a rambling twelve-room adobe mansion with a red-tiled roof, furnished in Spanish Colonial

style. Built under Bing's supervision in 1960, it overlooks "Sea of Cortez" and spectacular surrounding countryside.

BAJA SUR: The Old Groaner's Hideaway

Out of this world in Baja Sur, Mexico, Bing Crosby has found the fountain of youth—and a perfect place to nourish and help cultivate his second family tree.

I SAW IT HAPPEN



While sitting in a Boston restaurant, I looked up and saw several men approaching a nearby table. One of them was easily recognizable as Bing Crosby. A little, white-haired old lady, seated opposite

me, looked up and gasped, "Why, it's Father O'Malley!" Bing turned, his blue eyes twinkling, doffed his hat, and winked wickedly at the delighted little lady.

Ann Waldron
Taunton, Massachusetts



The Rhythm Boys get together again with Paul Whiteman. Paul gave me my first break

AUCTION/MART:

Offers invited by Edward G. Burnell, II7 Alicia Gdns, Kenton, Harrow, Mddx.
CLOSING DATE - MARCH 30. 1965;

1	Mississippi Mud/Sweet Lil.....	HMV	B2562	V+
2	Wrap your troubles in dreams/Gene Austin.....	"	B3936	V
3	Mississippi Mud/I left my suger-Sweet Lil.....	"	B4424	E
4	Side by side/Nat Shilkret orch.....	"	B5318	E
5	My blue Heaven/R. W. Khan orch.....	"	B5366	E
6	The Calinda/Shikret orch.....	"	B5384	E
7	Missouri waltz/Paul Whiteman orch.....	"	B5410	E+
8	Mary/Changes.....	"	B5461	E
9	Ol' man river/Make believe.....	"	B5471	E
10	My pet/Shilret orch.....	"	B5504	E
11	March of the Musketeers/Whiteman orch.....	"	B5807	V+
12	Changes/Louisiana.....	"	B8913	E-
13	Constantinople/Get out get under the moon.....	Co	4951	E
14	Wa-da-da/That's my weakness now.....	"	5006	E+
15	Because my baby don't mean nabbo now/Whiteman orch.....	"	5007	E+
16	That's grandma/Whiteman orch.....	"	5071	E
17	Get out get under the Moon/Whiteman orch.....	"	5161	E+
18	I'm on the crest of a wave/Whiteman orch.....	"	5241	E+
19	Louise(Bing solo)Master W.I48086/Whiteman orch.....	"	5456	V
20	Reach for someone not finding anyone there/Whitman orch.....	"	5484	V
21	Orange blossom time/Your mother and mine.....	"	5560	E
22	After you've gone/Whiteman orch;disc has 1/2" sealed bite-plays vg"	"	5702	V
23	Great day/Without a song.....	"	CB116	G+
24	Bundle of old love letters/Whiteman orch.....	"	5724	E
25	A bench in the park/Mast W.I49840/The Hokum boys.....	"	DB282	V
12" Records				
26	St Louis blues/Duke Ellington orch.....	Br	116	E+
27	Pennies from heaven/"Pen ies from heaven" (selection).....	"	134	N
28	La Golondrina/La Paloma.....	Co	9459	E
29	Moonlight bay-Riding herd on a clous/Phil Brito.....	VD	149	V
30	Let me call you sweetheart/Wait till the sun shines Nellie etc. "	"	423	V+
31	St Louis blues/Duke Ellington orch.....	Co	DX898	E+
32	Man without a country/What so proudly we hail(U.S. L.P.)	De	DL8020	E+
33	same as 32 - qith a hair crack - okay for taping.			

Your offers are invited for the following 10" single sided pressings-ALL NEW:

34-More and more;- 35-Welcome to my dreams;- 36-Strange music;- 37-At the flying "W";- 38-Poppa Santa Claus;- 39-I promise you;- 40-I can't believe that you're in love with me;- 41-Lullaby "Jocelyn";- 42-Where my caravan has rested;- 43-When the world was young;- 44-If I loved you;- 45-Dance ballerina dance;-

10" X 78 - Miscellaneous labels;

46	Can't we talk it over/Dinah.....	BR(USA)	6240..	V+
47	Home on the range/Blue prelude.....	Rex	8957.....	E+
48	I could'nt care less/Say one for me.....	Phill	PB921..	E+
49	With every breath I take(sound track "Here is my heart) Voice of Stars...	VS2		
50	Well did you evah/True love.....	Cap	CL 14645.N	
51	Man on fire/Seven nights a week.....	Cap	CL 14761.N	
51A	Beyond the reef/Play a simple melody.....	Col/India	50365.G	

COLUMBIA'S

52-DB I802. E; 53-DB I829. E-; 54-DB I845. N; 55-DB I894. E+; 56-DB 2000. E+
 57-DB 2043. E; 58-DB-2056. E+; 59-DB 2068. N-; 60-DB 2I37. E; 6I-DB 2208.V+

BRUNSWICKS

62-II55.E-; 63-II66.E; 64-II82.V+; 65-I252.G-; 66-I256.G-; 67-I270.G-;
 68-I27I.V; 69-I380.V+; 70-I404.E-; 7I-I42I.E; 72-I424.V; 73-I434.V;
 74-I469.V+; 75-I480.V-; 76-I53I.G+; 77-I562.V; 78-I563.V; 79-I596.E-;
 80-I597.E+; 8I-I608.E-; 82-I6I5.E-; 83-I667.V; 84-I668.E-; 85-I700.E+
 86-I768.V+; 87-I785.E; 88-I786.E; 89-I850.E+; 90-I95I.E+; 9I-I992.N-;
 92-I993.E; 93-I994.E+; 94-2054(DLA26I.Take "B".E+. 95-2054."A"Take.E+;
 96-2054X.E+; 97-2083.E+; 98-2I00.E-; 99-2I0I.V+; I00-2I43.E-; I0I-2I44.E+
 I02-2223.G-; I03-2270.N-; I04-2272.E+; I05-23I2.E; I06-23I3.V-; I07-23I5.E;
 I08-23I6.E+; I09-23I7.V; IIO-2402.E; III-24I2.V-; I12-2443.E (piclabel);
 I13-2452.G; I14-2492.N; I15-2493.E-; I16-2498.E(Pic label); I17-2499.V+ PicL)
 I18-2640.V; I19-2653.E-; I20-2664.V-; I2I-2678.V+; I22-268I.E; I23-2694.E+;
 I24-27I3.V+; I25-2746.N-; I26-2753.E+; I27-276I.V+; I28-2768.G; I29-2786.E+;
 I30-2787.E-; I3I-2805.N-; I32-2806.E+; I33-2807.V+; I34-2808.G; I35-2809.E+;
 I36-2826.V; I37-284I.E+; I38-2849.N-; I39-2873.E+; I40-288I.E+; I4I-2890.E;
 I42-2900.E; I43-2923.E+; I44-2926.V; I45-2927.E; I46-2928.E+; I47-2973.E+;
 I48-30I0.E; I49-30I9.E+; I50-303I.E+; I5I-3032.E; I52-3044.E; I53-3087.E+;
 I54-3I42.E+; I55-3I7I.E-; I56-3I84.E+; I57-3I85.E-; I58-3I90.E+; I59-3278.E+;
 I60-3300.V+; I6I-33I3.E+; I62-332I.V+; I63-3355.E+; I64-338I.E+; I65-3383.E+;
 I66-3384.E+; I67-339.E; I68-3396.V+; I69-34I0.E; I70-34II.G; I7I-3485.E+;
 I72-3494.E+; I73-35I0.E+; I74-3528.E+; I75-3533.E+; I76-3534.E+; I77-3539.E+;
 I78-3547.V; I79-3554.E+; I80-3569.N-; I8I-358I.E+; I82-3587.E; I83-3596.E+;
 I84-3597.E+; I85-3604.V; I86-36I8.E+; I87-3624.V; I88-3633.V+; I89-3634.E+;
 I90-3636.E+; I9I-3650.E+; I92-365I.V+; I93-3646.E+; I94-3657.E; I95-3672.E+;
 I96-3699.E+; I97-3700.E; I98-3708.E+; I99-373I.E+; 200-3744.E+; 20I-3746.E+;
 202-3753.N-; 203-3758.E+; 204-3775.E; 205-3782.V; 206-3783.V+; 207-3794.E-;
 208-3800.N-; 209-380I.E-; 2I0-3802.E+; 2II-3809.G-; 2I2-38I3.E; 2I3-3837.E;
 2I4-3839.V+; 2I5-3863.E+; 2I6-3874.N; 2I7-3875.N; 2I8-3882.E; 2I9-3902.E;
 220-3908.E; 22I-3929.(masterNo WL4375)V; 222-3929.(Master No DLA3026)E-;
 223-3930.E; 224-3938.E+; 225-3939.N; 226-3982.V+; 227-40I6.N-; 228-4035.E+;
 229-4043.E+; 230-4070.E+; 23I-4098.E+; 232-4I00.E+; 233-4I09.E+; 234-4II4.N;
 235-4II9.E+; 236-4I20.E+; 237-4I2I.V-; 238-4I32.E+; 239-4I39.N; 240-4339.N;
 24I-4345.E; 242-4347.E+; 243-4420.E; 244-4425.E+; 245-4433.E+; 246-4442.E+;
 247-4454.E; 248-4482.E+; 249-4483.N-; 250-4527.E+; 25I-4553.E; 252-458I.V;
 253-4672.E-; 254-4760.E-; 255-476I.E+; 256-484I.E; 257-4879.E+; 258-4900.N-;
 259-49I4.E-; 260-498I.N; 26I-4984.N-; 262-4985.N; 263-5000.E+; 264-50I4.E-;
 265-5033.N; 266-5048.E; 267-5070.V+; 268-5I04.V+; 269-5I72.N; 270-5224.V;
 27I-5244.E-; 272-5339.N; 273-5377.N; 274-54I0.V-; 275-5403.N-; 276-550I.E+;
 277-55II.E+; 278-5543.E-; 279-5585.E+; 280-5620.E+; 28I-5674.E; 282-5726.E+;
 283-5760.E+;

45 rpm Records;

284 Warner Bros WB83.N-;

285 Phillips PB8I7.E+;

286 Reprise R202I7.N;

287 Decca F2I452.N;

288 MGM IO98.E+;

289 MGM IIO7.V-;

290 Parlophone(EP)SEG 7553.V/V+;

 || DON'T MISS THE CLOSING DATE - MARCH 30th - ||

29I HMV(EP)7EG.82I9.V+/E-;

292 Brunswick. 05486.E+;

293 " 05558.E+;

294 " 05764.E+;

295 " 05770.E+;

296 " 05790.E+;

297 " 04568.V

* All bids direct to Mr Burnell--*

 ** "LETTERS TO THE EDITOR" **
 ** your views makes the news **

Taylor Foggin writes from "Myrtle House", 5 Dale Str, Haltwhistle, Northumberland.

"Many thanks for the introduction letter for the club, certainly a quick turn around via my old friend Mick Drury, since I mentioned my interest to him during one of our tapesponding sessions.

I have reason to play many Bing records on my weekly Hospital programmes of record requests which I organise for patients via a GPO land line from my home direct to the wards - Bing still remains a big favourite in patients requests!"

ooOoo

Elizabeth Bailey writes from 46 Millfield, Seaton Sluice, Whitley Bay, Northumb
erland.

Reading through the last Post I noticed a mention of Elvis in Crosby Chatter, stating that Bing had sold twice the number of records that Elvis has - well of course he has. Elvis has only been selling records for 9 years- match Bing's grand total of recording years against Elvis's small number, and who knows, in a few years, Elvis may have reversed the table with Bing. You know the old saying -Time will tell, and I think it will.

Of course this is only a friendly disagreement as quite naturally we all defend our favourite star.

I saw the film ROBIN AND THE SEVEN HOODS a little while ago and my favourite scene in the whole film was where Bing sang DON'T BE A DO-BADDER, and what a nice song;"

oOo

Editors note; I should perhaps mention that it is Elizabeth's mother who is a registered member of our Society and Elizabeth herself is a member of Elvis's British club, but nevertheless we certainly appreciate AND RESPECT her views on comments made by colleague Les Gaylor in the last Post - I'm sure Les will like me to see that in the presentdays of really big and quick record sales, it is not hard to visualise that Bing's total of 250 million will in the future be eclipsed by other recording artists.

Arthur Siegel writes from RFD # 2, Port Jervis, New York, USA;

"My interest in Bing Crosby goes back many years, I am 32 now and I guess I have collect Crosby records since I was 8 or 9 years old...Since the days of the old South Sea movies etc. I think Bing's voice was at its best in those days., from the beginning of his career to the end of his blue Decca period. His voice had a special quality then, and while I certainly enjoy his voice through the ensuring years. I think it was most distinctive then.

I hope that one of these days there will be a revival of 'scat singing/' for nearly everything is revived sooner or later. and Bing Crosby will be recognized even by the teenagers as not only the forerunner, but the outstanding exponent of jazz vocal. Many people don't realise that Crosby is one of the great jazz singers...not only a singer of ballads. Maybe even my wife will one day realise it. (Any singer who picks Ella Fitzgerald as his favourite singer, as Bing does, certainly knows his jazz.

I also knew Simon Rady, whose name you might know. he is a director of Bing's late company PROJECT RECORDS. He was a friend of the owner of a childrens summer camp that I once attended and we corresponded for several years when I

..was a boy.

Years later in 1962, my secretary and friend Sheila Mack, informed me that Bing was her god-father and that her grandfather, who lives in California and Bing are frequent golfing partners - - it's a small world."

0000

Rick Wiebkin writes from 57 Dean Str, London W.I.

"As a Canadian working in London after serving for 5 years in the Canadian Navy, I have just found out of the existance of the B.C.S. I've been collecting Crosby since I was 14 and am now aged 27 - my collection contains about 800 Bing recordings but as he has made over 2,000 I realise that this is only a small percentage and look forward to enlarging it through the club."

oOo

Editors note

We always like to read the personal data such as that written to us by Arthur and Rick and in Rick's case I'm sure you will find it very easy to build up your collection through the club - our colleague Ted Burnell offers a whole host of great items on page 22.

Kathleen Golder writes from 110 Shell Rd, Lewisham, London SE13.

"The latest Post (December) was really the best yet, so full of interest and nicely laid out - congratulations. I love the quizzes and puzzles and through they prove too hard for me I enjoy having a go. I bet Dot was dissapointed at just missing Bing - I can well imagine it, but it's nice to know she still keeps in touch with the club"

oOo

Madge Holmes writes from 149 Wellington Str, Winson Green, Birmingham 18.

I've been having a few thoughts lately about choosing my favourite Bing records and I just can't decide. However, I have thought of three songs I wish I could hear him sing; - JENNIE KISSED ME: I'VE GROWN ACCUSTOMED TO HER FACE and THE CORNISH FLORAL DANCE; Of course some of our experts will probably tell me that Bing has already recorded them - but I would still like to hear them/"

oOo

Editors note;

Commercially, Madge, I think you've stumped the experts here.

Edward Burnell writes from 117 Alicia Gdns, Kenton, Harrow, Middlesex;

Re your decision to charge for advertsing space in Crosby Post, I think this is a great idea but there is one point I would like to make and that is that it is not easy for a member to know just how much space his or her advert will take up in the mag - even with a typewriter it may be differently laid out in the Post when the copy is made - so I suggest that when members send there copy to you for printing, they should leave you to access this and you should bill each member accordingly."

oOo

Editors note;

Of course Ted, you have the right idea and as you suggest, members should send their copy to me, either typed or in longhand and I will advise you of the cost when your copy is included.

NAT KING COLE - The British Crosby Society Salutes
 =====
 ***** A Great Artist *****
 * * *

"I like to think of Nat Cole as a real strolling player-never pressing, never seeking for obvious effect, singing like he wanted no applause, cared little whether anyone was listening or not-singing because he wanted to sing. He liked to sing because he liked the song. This fellow creates a wonderful mood anytime he works, I believe. In his recording of MONA LISA this is particularly apparent." - BING CROSBY -from the sleeve notes of the 1950's album "SONG'S I WISH I HAD SUNG THE FIRST TIME AROUND" - Brunswick LAT 8138 - 12" Album.

oOo

NAT COLE died in February 1965 at the age of 45 at the height of a career that had stretched over more than two decades beginning as a jazz pianist with his King Cole Trio and later following the same pattern as Bing when he broke from the Rhythm Boys, he became one of America's leading solo vocal entertainers. With record sales of over 50,000,000 for Capitol, Nat Cole can truly be spoken of in the league of 'big singers/ and his own views on other entertainers makes interesting reading in the following extract from an article based on a tape recording he made during his last illness just before he died.

THE PEOPLE - Sunday February 21st, 1965;

NAT COLE talked at length of other stars in show business. His views on current pop idols are hardly flattering.

"They're manufacturing kids and records today like Cola Cola bottles. Sell them and get rid of them- thats the idea. They are not building new stars anymore. Not stars like ELLA FITZGERALD-you don't speak of her in the same breath as other singers - she can do anything.

Let's look at the other big names of today - JOHNNY MATHIS...He is typical of the pop school. He sings the melody. He's not a jazz singer, but he has a nice pleasant voice. He's not great, but he's good and one day he may make it great. VIC DAMONE...He's growing up. He was protected a lot and pampered in the beginning of his career, but he's out on his own now and he's good.

EDDIE FISHER...Thanks to all he's been through he's become a good singer with heart. He's got know How.

BOBBY DARIN...He's trying to be a young Frank Sinatra and he's going to do pretty good. I think he's a good little performer. Only one thing against him- he should be a little more humble.

FRANK SINATRA...Now here's a man who's one of the great song stylists of our day. There's no one better when he's working at it. He has real musical integrity and a sixth sense for picking the right songs.

SAMMY DAVIS jr...A great talent as a performer but not great in any one thing like Sinatra is at singing.

MAURICE CHEVALIER...A great artist and one of the greatest who walks on a stage. So is DANNY KAYE. But like Sammy, they are performers not just singers.

BING CROSBY...When he was singing no one was close to him. Today he doesn't have to sing anymore. He's going to be in the Hall of Fame;"

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The British Crosby Society salutes the passing of a great artist - the Music World will be all the poorer for the sad loss of one of its greatest sons. fm.

ATTENTION ALL BING CROSBY AND JAZZ COLLECTORS:

I am now taking orders for the musical sound track of Bing Crosby's first movie film- THE KING OF JAZZ. I have in my collection the original 16" discs pressed by Columbia, in excellent condition. THE KING OF JAZZ film was released by Universal Pictures in 1930 and features THE PAUL WHITEMAN BAND, BING CROSBY, THE RHYTHM BOYS, EDDIE LANG, JOE VENUTI and the entire ensemble. CROSBY solos on a never recorded tune, scat sings and is featured with THE RHYTHM BOYS etc.....Hot solos are featured on trumpet by TRUMBAUER on his C-melody Saxophone. The sound tracks of THE KING OF JAZZ have been taped via my 16" turntable and through a special filtering process I've eliminated practically all surface noise. I was able to put all material on one tape (2 sides) 1,200' and make this extremely rare item of CROSBIANA available to all. The price is 15 Dollars which includes tape and postage. Outside postage additional U.S.A. If you furnish the tape the price is 13 Dollars - tape used is SCOTCH at 7½ IPS speed.

Note; Please do not make offers for the original sound track discs.

In addition; Being that this is the sound track from CROSBY'S first film. It is only appropriate that I also taped Bing's first record IV'E GOT THE GIRL a duet with AL RINKER and the DON CLARK ORCHESTRA. It's included on the tape and heard at the conclusion of THE KING OF JAZZ soundtrack.

All replies and remittances to;

MIKE KAPTANIS, 535 West 135th Street, New York City, N.Y. U.S.A.

European Collectors add 1 Dollar 50 cents for extra postage and handling.

Editors note;

The complete cost of the above rare item, including postage works out at £5-15-6.

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"JUNK BOX JURY" The following extracts are taken from an article in the February 18th issue of DANCE NEWS -

"WHETHER you agree or not with recent and current articles in defence and criticising the record company's, you have to admit that this report by John Warren contains some home truths;

=====

John Warren of Glasgow, ex professional dancer, Ballroom proprietor, and chairman of the Scottish Dance Council, studied law as a young man. Calling upon this legal learning he says of Juke Box Jury; They are all guilty of capital crimes against music and dancing. He says "Dance teachers are disturbed at the teenage dance image presented by both TV channels. According to TV pop shows we have a nation of swaying beatagers weaving mystically in solo trances and backed by the dreariest discs ever disguised as a form of music. He selects Juke Box Jury as an example of the big beat brainwash and reckons it would be better called 'Junk Box Jury...His secret hope is that one day the jury will return a real verdict of guilty against the BBC officials who deliberately present exactly what they are given by the recording rajahs. He suggests that the present pop programmes are presented as a travesty of the truth for the lowest commercial motives, with disc jockeys determined

continued on page 28

nver to rock their own bank balances with any semblance of sanity. John Warren suggests that a REAL Juke Box Jury would make the following desicions in the interests of British teenagers;

- (I) That the BBC and ITV have falsely portrayed teenage tastes in music and dancing to the extent of performing a national disservice

GUILTY

- (2) That the majority of disc jockeys lead a lucrative life founded on the greatest detergent of all time - brainwashing for beataggers.

GUILTY

- (3) That the majority of past jurist have perjured themselves in front of millions by keeping the big beat balloon blown up with nothing but hot air.

GUILTY

- (4) That recording companies have religiously followed a financial bonanza in an ever decreasing spiral which will inevitably lose real music and dancing forever down that little hole in the middle.

GUILTY

=====ooOoo=====

The above extractions will most certainly cause much comment and your editor would very much like to know what you think on this topic - a selection of the best letters will appear in the next Crosby Post under the heading THE PRESENT MUSIC SCENE "OUR THOUGHTS"

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We present Number 2 in our new series

"MEET THE MEMBERS"

This month we meet

ELSIE KENNEDY of 15 Lowestoft Rd,
Watford - Herts;

Charlie Tupperts excellent and amusing article in the Decmber Post prompts me to Have a Go' - Like Charlie, I started buying Bing records with my first almost invisible pay packets, it must have been around 1936 when I got the first "PEN-IE FROM HEAVEN" a disc still in my collection and still well worth a spin. I carried on until the war came, seeing all the Bing films and saving the pennies for as many records as possible, but I must confess I did'nt do too well during the war.

well during the war. I was amused at Charlie's method of putting records in a box under his bed while doing his National service. I always suspected the men got away with in the service while we poor females had to endure 'bull' nights polishing everything in sight. I wouldn't have liked to have risked any 'Bing's' under my bed. They would probably have been confiscated (doubtless the Sgt was a fan too) But one girl did have an old wind up gram at one time and we had one of Bing's GIRL OF MY DREAMS - this was played until it became a scratchy whisper, and even then we'd have girls from other huts begging for a listen - this brings me to the day when Bing was over here and in Broadcasting House. We had a rest room on the camp, a place we hardly ever used, as we all seemed to have something better to do most of the time, but this place boasted a radio and on that day it was packed to the doors. At lunch time and every chance we got, we crowded in hoping to catch up with Bing. We did too and woo betide anyone who spoke a whisper. That was a red letter day, but the biggest one for me came some years later when Bing and Bob Hope played a charity golf match down at Maidenhead. I got

within touching distance of the great man that day and what a thrill that was. He looked exactly as he does on films and over the speakers from the club house he sounded the same too. Perhaps some of our fellow members were in the crowd?.

I had another bit of luck when I met up with Bob Roberts and found my way into the Society - seeing and hearing some of Bob's great collection was some experience and only then did I know how few records I have. But though I admire people like Bob who can make these terrific collections, to me, its not so much making a collection that matters, its hearing the voice anywhere - anytime.

Elsie Kennedy;

ooooOoooo

Members who have interesting 'Crosby' stories to tell are invited to build a story around them and send them in for bingbangers to read in this feature

BING BING BING: If you are a Crosby Fan
and not in The British Crosby Society,
You should be - for details contact
Tetlow, 30 Cromer Road, Soton.

The above advert was very kindly placed in his local paper by new member Fred Tetlow - we are very grateful Fred for this free publicity and if any other club member feels like doing the same in the local paper of the area you reside in, please go ahead - any publicity of this nature is always much appreciated by the clubs officers. When doing so please send a copy of the advert to the editor of Crosby Post for acknowledgement.;

Supplies of the clubs intro form are available to any members requiring them.

"A TOUCH OF THE BING(S" - presented by Ernie Finn, 23 Braddon Rd,
*****VIA SID PHILLIPS * Woodley - Cheshire;

Recently my wife and I visited our local club which puts on two acts each evening, and one of the acts was a chap called ROY CHAPPELL - the name didn't mean anything to me on the announcement by the compere, but when he started singing CHATTANOOGIE SH'E SHINE BOY with added beats and then I LEFT MY HEART IN SAN FRANCISCO with all the mannerisms of the great Bing, all the audience were really moved. Second session he sang THE SECRET OF CHRISTMAS and then JUST ONE MORE CHANCE each time announcing in his bright way references to Bing before each song.

By this time I thought 'I must get this bloke into the Society' So I approached him and asked if he was a Bing fan and he promptly brought out of his case a copy of CROSBY POST - He was hoping to enrol me!! then we got chatting and I learned he was the same Roy Chappell mentioned as a new member in the Christmas issue of the Post - I invited him to my home anytime he can find the time to come for a session.

By this time it was time for his last spot on the programme and after going through his music with him, he decided on JUST AN ECHO IN THE VALLEY - it went down marvellous, all the audience joining in the 'echo's' the encores were deafening. He finished up with a selection of gay old timers dressed in blazer and straw hat, a-la-Crosby-style.

Ernie
Finn

"Thanks Roy for a great evening"

1964;

- Dec 24 Saw HOLIDAY INN on BBC TV - family verdict-Great!!!
Dec 25 Bing on BBC Light programme for half an hour at lunch time.
Dec 29 BBC-TV THE ONE AND ONLY BING - super 25 minutes.
Dec 30 Recieved great colour photos of Bing on his new TV show from Pat Sullivan - thanks Pat;

1965;

- Jan 7 Heard Bing/Rosie's HOW ABOUT YOU on early morning BBC prog, Family Fare.
Jan 8 BBC's Midday Spin. Benny Lee played BLUE OF THE NIGHT; STRAIGHT DOWN THE MIDDLE; and the vintage LEARN TO CROON: - tip top Benny.
Great colour photos of Bing and the family in WEEKEND
Heard Bing/Rosie's HINDUSTAN on BBC's Playtime.
Jan 12 On BBC Light, 9.15 PM Tony Bislow played LITTLE ONE
Jan 14 Had nice letter from Barbara Lund of Norway asking for Bing photo, sent letter to Bing - also replied to letter from 13 year old Gamel Quaw of Ghana, West Africa
Shiela Tracy played LAZY on BBC's Melody Fair - Light 3pm.
Jan 15 Tim Brinton played Bing/Rosie's YOU CAME A LONG WAY FROM ST LOUIS on BBC's Roundabout.
Jan 16 Our London booster Kathy Golder told me of action in her quest to hear from Pattie Boyd, girl friend of Beatle, George Harrison - It seems Pattie is a great admirer of Bing - I replied to Kathy that I hoped for a story for the Post from this.
Jan 17 ROAD TO ZANZIBAR on BBC TV - poor songs, but the comedy made HONG KONG look dumpy.
Jan 19 Recieved more colour photos of Bing's weekly TV show, this time from our Australian buddy Bill Bell - thanks Bill, and whilst on the subject of Australia, my thanks to Keith Hyde for a great '65 calender.
Jan 20 Sent details of 15th Anniversary Dinner to Bing and asked for taped message from the maestro - also wrote to Pat Sullivan re continued great interest in AMERICAN AIRMAIL
Jan 22 Richard Murdock played great Bing/Louis track NOW YOU HAS JAZZ on Housewives Choice. BBC Light 9 AM.
Jan 25 On BBC's Family Fare, heard Frankie/Deano and Bing's OLDEST ESTABLISHED
Jan 27 On BBC Light's Midday Spin Bing/Satchmo's NOW YOU HAS JAZZ
Jan 29 My top track of Bing and Rosie ISLE OF CAPRI on BBC's Family Fare.
Jan 31st Great night for 60 odd Northern fans who attended this months meeting, HIGH SOCIETY was the film and it proved a solid hit.
Feb 3 Bing/Frank's WELL DID YOU EVAH on Housewives Choice
Feb 5 Heard 1931 version of BLUE OF THE NIGHT on Radio Caroline
Around the World on Housewives Choice
Feb 7 On BBC'S Sunday morning programme The Record Show, heard Bing/Rosies HINDUSTAN, and Bing/Frankie and Deano's STYLE
Feb 8 Nice to hear Bing's RAMONA and AMAPOLA on BBC's Family Fare
Feb 9 On BBC's Family Fare, Bing's GIMME A LITTLE KISS and WHEN THE RED RED ROBIN COMES BOB BOB BOBBIN ALONG
On BBC's Playtime PASS THAT PEACE PIPE
Feb 12 WELL DID YOU EVAH on Houswives Choice.
Bing/Rosies FANCY MEETING YOU HERE on BBC's Midday Spin
On Alan Dell's late night show, BBC Light 11pm. Bings WHITE CHRISTMAS
YA GOTTA GIVE THE PEOPLE HOKE and YOU'RE THE TOP .

- Feb 14 On Sunday morning BDC Record Show, my favourite Irish track TWO SHILLELAGH O' SULLIVAN.
- Feb 20 Ding's taped message for Anniversary Dinner arrived - future plans of the semi retired maestro, staggering.
- Feb 28 Another great night for Northern fans who gathered at our ACA Headquarters, Newcastle on Tyne for this months session and great film HERE COMES THE GROOM.
- ?????? Must close to catch this months Crosby Post - subject to sufficient reaction from the club members, I will continue my diary next issue.

Members are reminded that the above notes kept by Frank Murphy, refer only to the Bing discs he has heard personally, Bing has been aired many more times during the period covered, on other programmes - nevertheless, the total listed in this Diary represents quite a formidable total.

+ C	INTERNATIONAL	+
+ R	*****	+
+ O	NEW CLUB MEMBERS	+
+ S	*****	+
+ B	CIRCLE	+
+ Y	+	+
+ I	+	+

Mr R Swan, 72 Maple Terr, Newcastle on Tyne 4. Northumberland
 Mr C Prior, 11 Henry Str, Gosforth, Newcastle on Tyne. Northumberland
 Mr D Davies, 41 Heol Heddych, Seven Sisters, Neath, Glamorgan, Wales.
 Mr T Foggin, 5 Dale Str, Haltwhistle, Northumberland
 Mr N Faichney, 20 Foundry Str, Bainsford, Falkirk, Scotland.
 Mr R Wiebkin, 57 Dean Str, London W.I.
 Mr L Goulden, 69 Hen Lane, Holbrooks, Coventry, Warwick.
 Mr A Canavan, 34 Fursey Rd, Shantalla, Galway, Ireland.
 Mrs R Titterington, 11 Forbes Rd, Springfield Est, Kingsworthy, Hants.
 Mr R Norton, 9 The Heronry, Walton On Thames, Surrey.
 Mr I Fresart, 27 Rue De Commerce, Wavre Bt, Belgium..
 Mr E Hughes, 30 The Henry's, Thatcham, Berkshire.
 Mr S Brown, 25 St Pauls Rd, Tottenham, N 17.
 Mr A Williams, 68 Palatine Rd, Blackpool, Lancs.
 Mr E Welch, No 1 Civil Service Mess, RAF Steamer Point, Aden, BF PO 69.

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We also want to thank club members who sent in kind and appreciated donations to club funds and our special thanks to Roy Chappell for his special donation of 15/- to pay for the electronic photo stencil used to front his article.

=====000=====

NEWSFLASH FROM PERCY HARDING:

IT IS EXPECTED TO BE THE
 GREATEST MUSICAL BASED ON
 IRVING BERLING'S MANY TOP
 HITS YET:

* Tell your friends about CROSBY *

* POST - The Top magazine for *

* ---- The Bing enthusiast ---- *

A new Hollywood film planned;
 --An Irving Berlin musical--
 "SAY IT WITH MUSIC"
 Produced by Vincente Minnelli;
 *****starring*****
 BING CROSBY FRANK SINATRA
 DEAN MARTIN SAMMY DAVIS
 ANN MARGARET LOUIS ARMSTRONG
 MITZI GAYNOR DEBBIE REYNOLDS
 PEGGY LEE ELLA FITZGERALD

Following is a transcription of the personal tape greeting sent to the club by Bing to be played at the clubs 15th Anniversary Dinner to be held in Newcastle on Tyne on Wednesday May 5th;

"This is a tape to the British Society care of Frank Murphy, we have his address in London;

Hello, this is Bing Crosby, I'm taping a little greeting to all the members of the Society, doing a job here at the beautiful San Matao J.C. Its a college for about 7,000 enrolment day students and about 12,000 night students in a magnificent campus high in the hills in the back of San Matao and not more than 10 minutes drive from our home in Hillsborough.

I just came up here to do a bunch of tapes for different charities, some things that have accumulated and the people at the University were kind enough to offer me the use of the facilities and of course we're all very grateful.

I suppose some of you are interested in my activities since the 12 months that have passed since your last meeting there in London, Well I've been working on the television series, started in July, made 30 films and finished about ten days ago, that is around the 1st of February. The series was done in spurts, we worked three weeks then layed off two weeks and then back for three weeks. It was'nt too difficult a chore except when you are there you get to work about 7,30 and work through to about 7,30 at night. I was thinking the other day, I did 30 films, each one running, oh they run about 27, 28 minutes and they are each one done in three days, so you see we did 27 minutes of film in three days, where in the old days in motion pictures 27 minutes of film would have taken three weeks to shoot.. So you know when you are on the set of a television series like the one we've just completed, you work day and night, you hardly get time to go to the mens room. Very little time to socialise or do anything else and when you get through work at the end of the day about all you can do is grab something to eat, and go home, hit the pad and get some shut eye.

Kathryn's been working quite a lot lately, she did the Bob Hope show not too long ago, she's in a Ben Casey show which is soon to be seen in the United States and shortly thereafter I'm sure, In Great Britain. She was also in one of our shows, she had a chance to play a character role, something she never did before. She plays a gushy Southern girl, and interior decorator with a floppy hat and long dangling hankchief, she got a chance to go back to her Texas accent for a change, and of course she's been doing all the fashion shows the charity shows. with John Louis Merrith, narrating and modelling in them and she's just been out to the University of Texas looking at the facilities they have there for one of the most expansive dramatic schools of the West. The Sisters of the Immaculate Heart are going to build a Convent soon in Los Angeles and they wanted to try and duplicate the facilities and Kathryn being a graduate of the University of Texas had access to the facilities and she took them on a tour.

I go back to New York next week to do a new show, its an iravation by the American Broadcasting Network, they going to in co-operation with the Sports Illustrated, the big sports magazine, starting a new yearly sports award, it's called the Grand Sports Award, whereas four nominees in every walk of sport both in womens and mens sports will be selected by a comittee and from these four nominees the grand champion in each sport will be chosen and he's be presented on the show that evening, I'm to be the host and Kathryn's going to

be the Co-Host, they expect I suppose to have several hundred leading figures from the sports world in every conceivable sport both amateur and professional. They'll be the track athletes from Russia and from Ethiopia, the marathon runner, every champion and every sport, it should be a tremendous thing.

Next April I have to come back from Mexico and do an hour tribute to the great Irving Berlin, it's his birthday, I think it's his 76th birthday and they're going to do a big spectacular in colour featuring all the great songs that he's written. I don't know how they're going to get it compressed into an hour but they're hopeful. It was originally scheduled for two hours but they couldnt get the net-work time so its now going to be an hour. I don't know who else is going to be on the show, but I'm going to be the Host.

Been doing a bit of recording lately, I know you're all interested in that. Just finished an album with Rosie Cloonie which I think has a great chance. It's called The Travelling Two Beat, It's a tour of Europe taking the traditional song in each country and putting it to Dixieland style accompaniment and the great Billy May has done the arrangements and we've finished the album and we really think we've come up with something quite unusual. Certainly it'll be unusual and acceptable and entertaining for those few Dixieland fans that are left in the world since the Rock and Roll and The Beatles and everybody has kinda chased them outa business - so that covers my activities, professionally at least for the past 12 months and for the next two or three months.

Then in June I have to come up to do a picture at 20 Century Fox, they're going to revive the famous old film STAGECOACH the film that won so many Academy awards, I think it was in 1937, they're going to take advantage of course of the new big screen technique and the colour and the panoramas that they can achieve with this new film technique and they hope to have an all star cast. so far the only people that have been signed, outside of myself, are Henry Fonda, and Anne Margret, they're trying to get Fred Astaire, I think this Clint Eastwood is going to do the role that John Wayne made famous, in fact the role that really got John Wayne started, and its going to be an outstanding colour western, guess its going to cost around Seven Million Dollars so you can see they're plans are very ambitious.

Then I have to do a film, the locale of which is in New York. Myself and a little Puerto-Rican boy, its a sentimental story and we've got the boy and he's very attractive and very appealing and tremendously talented and we have high hopes that this will be a good movie too. So that's all the news about the film activities.

We've just completed the golf tournament down at Pebble Beach, which was a tremendous success, the gross receipts were in excess of 250,000 Dollars out of which 125,000 Dollars was net for charities, of course that all goes to the maintenance of youth centres all over the West for hospitals for cobbler facilities and for iron lungs and all the other things and last year we made what I thought was a very gratifying innovation, we gave 150,000 Dollars in the form of student loans, maybe we can make one available here for San Mateo JC Varying amounts of 5,000 each and they enabled students to at least pay part of they're tuition while they're attending college, and we made these loans to little known University's, small University's, junior colleges,

rather than to the big schools who have substancial endowments already and really don't have an immediate need for help and this to me has been one of the greatest uses that we've been able to find for these funds which we raise through the golf tournament at Pebble Beach. It's nice to know that an athletic competition such as this tournament which is in its 24th year, next year is our silver anniversary, has been able to do so much good in so many places, and everybody's very happy about that.

I hav'nt played any golf because I've got birkitis in both shoulders, which makes Bob Hope very happy because I can't take any money from him and he's fairly solvent right now, but I'll be healthy again and I'll have him out on the links and I'll get into his jeans some how or other.

So in closing I just want to wish you all a very big meeting and hope to see you all in London, probably in the fall, if I get through that second picture I was talking to you about in time and Kathryn will be with me and we might bring the youngest boy Nathaniel Patrick, he's never been to England, the other two children have. So I wish you all a wonderful meeting, kind regards hope the weather's improved, that you've had a lot of rain that the golf courses will be green and in good shape for me when I get there come late summer - solong"

Frank Murphy; writes;;

In expressing the clubs deep appreciation to Bing for the abbove tremendous taped message I must confess to having a sense of deep personal pride in recieving this tape from Bing to mark the clubs 15th Anniversary and at this time I want to send a special word of kind thought to my dear colleague of past years DOT HARDIMAN for without Dot we'd have had nothing to celebrate now - to the many club officers and members who will want to add this unique message to their collections I want to announce that I will be making arrangements to have this message issue as a club private disc which you will ALL have the priviledge of purchasing, and I wish to announce further that all surplus moneys arising out of the sale of this disc will be used to promote The British Crosby Society during this great year of our 15th Anniversary - However, until I advise details, I would appreciate and favour your patience.

† PRESENTING †

Crosby Post's review
of the latest Bing
on disc

A TRACK FROM
1931 - re-leased
in --- 1965

* THE GROANER IN THE GROOVE *
* bing;bing;bing;bing; *
* bing;bing;bing;bing; *

Hi Collectors,

Well 1965 has opened poorly so far as collectors of CROSBYANA is concerned, but we can take heart from the encouraging personal news in this issue from Der Bingle himself, and noting in my Crosby Diary that tracks from the first Bing and Rosie Clooney album seem to figure more than any other Crosby discs, it could well be a great chore from the maestro - there's no menti n to-date of the eagerly looked forward too Country and Western album but these things have a habit of popping up unexpectedly, so keep hoping - so now to what's new for this issue - well, like I said, there's

little to tell you about and the first issue to list is an album from EMI
THE VERY BEST OF RODGERS AND HART - AN ALL-STAR SALUTE - MGM 99I - 12" Album

This showcases some of the greats of show-business and naturally includes Bing - I enjoyed these original Bing's backed by the Buddy Bregman Orchestra from the Original album BING SINGS WHILST BREGMAN SWINGS - and they sound great in this august company of stars;

SIDE ONE:

SLAUGHTER ON TENTH AVENUE:
The David Rose Orchestra;

JOHNNY ONE NOTE:
Judy Garland;

MIMI:
Maurice Chevalier;

THIS CAN'T BE LOVE:
Anna Maria Alberghetti;

MY FUNNY VALENTINE:
The Larry Elgart Orchestra;

BLUE MOON:
Mel Tormé

SIDE TWO:

WITH A SONG IN MY HEART
The Cyril Ordadel Orchestra;

THE BLUE ROOM:
Bing Crosby;

THE LADY IS A TRAMP:
Lena Horne;

BEWITCHED:
Bess Myerson;

HAVE YOU MET MISS JONES:
Louis Armstrong;

MOUNTAIN GREENERY:
Bing Crosby;

Also recieved from EMI for review is a very unusual record album;

MY FAVOURITE STORY - BY AMERICA'S GREATEST PERFORMERS; STATESIDE 10067 -

With BING CROSBY as Master of Ceremony, this album boasts a host of the big names of show business; LUCILLE BALL: JACK BENNY: JOEY BISHOP: GEORGE BURNS: BOB HOPE: GEORGE JESSEL: GENE KELLY: ART LINKLETTER: GROUCHO MARX: PHIL SILVERS: RED SKELTON: JIMMY STEWART and DANNY THOMAS; with such an all star cast you would have thought it could'nt miss - but it does and I blame lack of audience participation - but the albums well worth the money just for the masterful Crosby patter, especially the opening few lines;

On February 5th, Reprise were due to release the following;=

FROM THE SOUNDTRACK OF "ROBIN AND THE SEVEN HOODS" R30039;

"MR. BOOZE" "DON'T BE A DO-BADDER" and "STYLE"

But as this section is prepared no further information is to hand

Continued on page 36

From Decca we have;-

A TRIBUTE TO COLE PORTER: ACE OF HEARTS AH 83 - 12" album;

Your'e the top-BING CROSBY & MITZI GAYNOR: You'd be so nice to come home
to-DICK HAYMES: In the still of the night;ARTIE SHAW: Let's do it-MARY
MARTIN; Just one of those things-PEGGY LEE; Beguine the beguine-TONY MARTIN:
I get a kick out of you-ETHEL MERMAN: It's De lovely-MITZI GAYNOR/DONALD
O' CONNOR; What is this thing called love-JERRY GRAY ORCHESTRA: You do
something to me-MARLENE DIETRICH: Don't fence me in-BING CROSBY & THE ANDREWS
SISTERS: True love-KITTY KALLEN:

=====

J. and finally a surprise single on the Brunswick label;

WHERE THE BLUE OF THE NIGHT MEETS THE GOLD OF THE DAY/ RECORDED 1931
backed with BEAUTIFUL DREAMER/ recorded 1940;

What a magnificent buy for our younger collectors and those who hav'nt got
these tracks on L.P. records yet - any comment on the performance is not
neccessary and it simply remains for me to say BUY THIS ONE and you've got
two of the standout vocals in Crosbyana - but I just could'nt resist printing
this tasty news item which our colleague Leah (Mrs Jack) Shaw, passed on to me.

NIGHT ECHO OF 34 YEARS AGO "POP PICKINGS" DAILY EXPRESS Thursday Feb 4th;

Any average week at least 40 pop singles come into the shops all hoping for a
chart rating and the magic golden top ten, but there's never been a bigger
shock candidate than this week.

The number is one of the best standards in the book "WHERE THE BLUE OF THE
NIGHT" But this is the original version recorded al of 34 years ago.

The singer helped write the tune. He is aged over 60 now, a grandfather and a
millionaire many times over.

The name HARRY LILLIS CROSBY, otherwise BING, in his time he has sold over
200 million discs.

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And so we wind up this issue's review - we hope to have a newer look for
you next trip and until then, keep them spinning....fn.

Don't miss the next news packed edition of CROSBY POST the top magazine
for Crosby people and if you'd like to submit a contribution, it will be
very welcome, send it in by the closing date for material for the next issue
which is MAY 1ST - no later please - and until we meet again in June cheers-

Members who missed the 40 page edition of DECEMBER CROSBY POST can obtain
a copy by sending a postal order for 3/6 direct to Frank Murphy - back numbers
of many other issues are also available

A N N O U N C E M E N T =====

THE ROAD TO BING CROSBY PART III (The Bing Crosby discography)

Work has now commenced on the compilation of Part III which will cover another ten years and continue from 27th September 1943 (where Part II ended) and finish at about 1953. It will be as large as Part II and contain many more interesting photographs. Many collectors and enthusiasts have already reserved a copy ... have you ??? It will probably be ready for publication by AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 1965 so look out for the announcement of its issue in the CROSBY POST issue for September.

THE ROAD TO BING CROSBY PART II

Part Two (in common with previous issues) has been a complete sell-out. A few copies have been reserved for enthusiasts so this is your last chance to obtain a copy. If you need a second copy or one for your friend, write now to me, Ralph Harding, "Crosbyana", 6, Castledine Road, Anerley, London, S.E.20. or to your Editor FRANK MURPHY.

On behalf of the team of Editors, FRED REYNOLDS, BOB ROBERTS, LES PHYTHIAN and myself, I would like to thank all the enthusiasts who wrote to me expressing their thanks and delight at this issue of Part II. Believe me, it is quite impossible to answer all the letters fully ... likewise I can't print all the bouquets handed out to the team on this latest compilation. We have yet to receive a brick-bat ...!!!

This issue has been described by scores of recipients in the most glowing terms and you must forgive the team if we revel in this praise ... we felt rather proud of it too! I would like to print a whole heap of extracts from letters received but I thought that a letter from Charlie Tupper of Ewell, Surrey was worthy of mention. Although Charlie didn't order a copy, I sent him a copy for his approval (look now, pay later) and in fact I sent out about fifty copies on approval so that enthusiasts could see what they may be missing. Charlie wrote ... "Dear Ralph, It was a real pleasure when I opened the mystery package that arrived a few days ago. A crafty move Ralph because the letter with it was well worth the reading. Anyway you have sold a copy to me and it's well worth the money. I suppose the same could apply to many Crosby-ites but I had read about your discography and that was as far as it went, but to actually get a copy that's different, it makes one realise the value in information that is contained therein. Please put my name down for Part III and all others to follow. Boy! you've really got me at it now, running up and down stairs checking those masters for the different takes ... I've found several too.... etc.etc."

So why not join Charlie in running up and down the stairs checking your masters ... it's fun and healthy too ... keeps your waist-line down!

There are still a few enthusiasts who had a copy sent on approval and haven't sent the money yet. I won't remove the pins from your effigy until you do! So how about it fellows, don't keep the Crosby Society waiting for a mere 6/6d. Remember, you owe it to the CROSBY SOCIETY.

When the very last of the money for the discog is collected and paid in to your Editor, the Society will have made a profit of just over £12.0.0 by the sale of Part II. And finally on behalf of the team of Editors and Frank Murphy who made the whole project possible, I'd like to thank you all for your support and thanks ... which makes the whole thing worth-while.

Sincerely,

LES PHYTHIAN, BOB ROBERTS, FRED REYNOLDS and

Ralph Harding

PUZZLE CORNER

calling ... In the last issue (December) of the CROSBY POST, I set a quiz entitled "CAN YOU SPOT THE DELIBERATE MISTAKES ?" Well, I had a fairly good response from readers and although some of the guesses were pretty wild (and EVERYONE got the mistake about the date of Bing's real birthday!) many of you got a few of the mistakes that I had deliberately printed. Okay, okay ... I agree it was tough! But if I set an easy quiz, there would be little need for you to rack the old grey matter.

Anyway, before I give the answers, I think that Arnold Pope and his wife deserve a mention for producing the best (altho' not one hundred per cent correct) effort. More important, Arnold spotted an UNINTENTIONAL mistake in the alternate take notes included in the discography THE ROAD TO BING CROSBY PART II ... for which I am more than grateful. I might add that this mistake passed the eagle eyes of the Editors, the checkers and every one else who presumably have checked through Part II. So our thanks Arnold and we'll rectify this little error in our amendments.

Well now ... the DELIBERATE mistakes!

1. Bing was born May 2nd. 1904. His 45th birthday would have been eight days previously.
2. Sinatra's Press Agent at that particular time was George Evans who later died February 1950.
3. "Sam's Song" was not published until 1950 and was a 1950 hit.
4. Gary Evan Crosby was born June 27th 1933 and he would have been sixteen years old the following month.
5. Gary's first record with Bing was "Play A Simple Melody".
6. "Zing A Little Zong" wasn't even written or composed at that time.
7. Bing had already made 18 recordings this year in question, 1949.
8. He did NOT have a busy time last year (i.e. 1948) in fact in 12 months he only made two recordings and from 1st. Jan to 25th. Nov he recorded nothing commercially.
9. Victor Young was a violinist ... not a pianist.
10. It was AFTER Bennie Goodman joined Ben Pollack.
11. Bing has never recorded with Bennie Goodman as stated by Bennie himself.
12. "Peachtree Street" with Rosemary Clooney was made on 8th. April 1950.
13. At this time, Bing had made no recordings with Rosie.
14. The song "Isle Of Innisfree" was recorded 9th. Dec 1951, two years after Bing said he recorded it.
15. "Sunshine Cake" recorded on 10th. May was with Carole Richards.

Well, how did YOU make out ?? All fifteen correct and you're either a genius or you cheat! Ten correct ... well this is excellent, what are you wasting your time reading this crummy corner for? Five correct ... that's my boy, you're about normal.

Anyway, thanks for your letters and I'll try and make things a little easier. A couple of stop-press announcements ... concerning the recent publication Part II ROAD TO BING CROSBY. Most of the cash is now in ... still a few to pay up. As a point of interest, FRANK GRANT of Scotland purchased SIX copies of the discog and also bought the master photos of the two plates for a goodly sum ... merely to help and encourage the POST, THE CROSBY SOCIETY and as appreciation of the work done. Thanks Frank ... we NEED enthusiasts like you! Several other good friends bought two or even three copies each. Have YOU paid for your copy yet?? By the way, I have prepared a series of 1,800 feet tapes entitled the HISTORY OF BING CROSBY ON RECORD. The first tape contains excerpts of BING'S recordings from his first "I've Got The Girl" to the Columbia period. 64 titles on one tape. The WHOLE of Bing's output including all alternate takes extracted from a mint collection and including no wastage of Orchestral accompaniment. Several collectors have expressed great interest in these series of tapes. If you are interested, please get in touch. Invaluable to the enthusiast who could never obtain all the records contained on this tape plus the fact that one can hear the entire Crosby output from 10th. Oct 1926 to June, 28 without having to play all the records. Drop me a line if you are interested RALPH HARDING.

 * IN THIS ISSUE *

3..Editorial.....	
4..Croztalk.....	Jack Manners.....
5..S stockinful of Crosby.....	Mick Drury.....
6..Puzzle Corner.....	Ralph Harding.....
8..Physiologically speaking.....	Fred Reynolds.....
10..Photo page.....	
11..Singing contest result.....	Bob Roberts.....
11..The Magic Voice.....	Ted Laker.....
13..Personal letters from Bing and Kathryn.....	
14..Crosby Chatter.....	Leslie Gaylor.....
15..American Newsletter.....	Pat Sullivan.....
18..Photo page.....	
21..Photo page.....	
22..Auction/Mart.....	
24..Letters to the editor.....	
26..A tribute to Nat King Cole.....	
27..Attention all Bing Crosby and jazz fans.....	
27..Junk Box Jury - They're all guilty.....	
28..Meet the Members.....Number Two.....	Elsie Kennedy.....
29..Roy Chappell - A Touch of the Bing's.....	Ernie Finn.....
30..Crosby Diary.....	Frank Murphy.....
31..New club members.....	
32..A Personal message from Bing Crosby - transcribed from tape.....	
34..The Groaner in the Groove.....	Frank Murphy.....
37..The Road to Bing Crosby - announcements.....	Ralph Harding.....
38..Puzzle Corner calling.....	Ralph Harding.....
40..Cover photo page.....	and sign off.....
*****	*****

THE BRITISH CROSBY SOCIETY ANNOUNCES A 15th ANNIVERSARY DINNER DATE:

Club members throughout the country are invited to attend a dinner to be held at the following venue on:-

WEDNESDAY MAY 5th at 7.30 P.M. - Dinner at 8.00 P.M.
 to be followed by cabaret and taped entertainment
 to include Bing's personal taped greeting.

The Venue;
 KINGS RESTAURANT (private room)
 NORTHUMBERLAND STREET
 NEWCASTLE ON TYNE

+++++
 + members families +
 + and friends are +
 + cordially invited +
 +++++

Tickets for this memorable evening are available direct from Frank Murphy price One Guinea each - please apply early - the closing date for ticket requests is APRIL 20th after which no further applications will be entertained.

 ** "CROSBY POST" ----- MID-MARCH-SUPPLEMENT **

STOP PRESS:

BBC HAVE BOUGHT 30 OF BING'S WEEKLY TV SHOWS FOR SHOWING ON BBC 1 and 2.

OK KEEPING ANALYSIS

CAN'T WE TALK IT OVER?

A Quarterly Miscellany of Crosbyana - by LES PHYTHIAN

Because of time problems I'm afraid this instalment of my regular feature will have to appear in slightly altered form. One item cannot conceivably be ignored, however, so here follows a brief review of an outstanding television presentation which I feel sure will have been watched with maximum enjoyment by every reader of this magazine who was in a position to do so:-

THE ONE AND ONLY BING

(BBC-1 Television. Tuesday, 29th December, 1964)

It's as well to concede at the outset that any attempt to compress a career as long and eventful as Bing's into a programme of 25-minutes duration is a virtual impossibility. Nevertheless, every devotee of the inimitable Mr. C must have felt a deep sense of gratitude to the producers of the entertaining 'Hollywood and the Stars' series for having made the effort; and an extremely good effort, both visually and aurally, it turned out to be. Clips from the Mack Sennett 'shorts' of 1930/31 were indeed pleasant to behold on the domestic screen of 1964; while there can be no doubt that even the most blasé of Crosby collectors (assuming that any exist!) must have jumped for joy at the chance of hearing that youthful, unique voice negotiating the long-forgotten phrases of Irving Berlin's "High Up, Low Down" from the 1931 movie Reaching For the Moon. Only a snippet, 'tis true, but one from a decidedly obscure corner of historic Crosbyana. (This, by the way, was a Bebe Daniels-Douglas Fairbanks production directed by Edmund Goulding for United Artists, in which Bing made a brief guest appearance - uncredited - to do this song sequence only. During 1946 some enterprising posters in the U.S.A. gave Reaching For the Moon a limited reissue, describing the movie posters as "featuring Bing Crosby" but neglecting to mention Fairbanks!)..... It's difficult not to comment on some notable omissions from the programme. One can perhaps understand the absence of any footage from Universal's King of Jazz - though surely a reference to this early landmark in screen musicals during the narration would not have come amiss? - but why nothing from The Big Broadcast, which was something special in its day and really provided the starting point for what was to become one of the most astonishing movie careers in Hollywood history? And the sudden transition from "High Up, Low Down" to the marvellous "Pennies From Heaven" of 1936 was quite a jump..... We shall never know the reasons, I suppose, but at all events let's be thankful for the many excellent things that were included in this fine tribute to a great artist - a man whose talents and eminence were succinctly summed up in the title - a model of accuracy - 'The One and Only Bing'.

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To conclude, here as promised are a few notes in support of my choice of 'Top Ten' Favourite Bing Films which appeared in the last issue of CROSBY POST:-

THE BIG BROADCAST. (1932)

This one had to be in. The intense fascination I felt for a sensational singer-personality called Bing Crosby, which had been inspired by his highly refreshing work on records and developed through fleeting appearances in King of Jazz and the series of Sennett 'shorts', crystallized for all time with the arrival of this movie in which he had his first starring role. Bing's unforgettable singing of "Please", "Here Lies Love" etc., with the late Eddie Lang's superb guitar-playing very much in evidence, remain among my most treasured cinematic memories. A milestone indeed.

Lighthearted and very free adaptation of J. M. Barrie's 'The Admirable Crichton' theme. Bing here shared the billing with Carole Lombard and a cast that included Ethel Merman and Burns & Allen. The first-rate Gordon-Revel score included gems like "May I?", "Love Thy Neighbour", "Once In a Blue Moon" and, best of all, "Goodnight, Lovely Little Lady".

Bing and the outrageously funny W.C. Fields. What a combination of talents! Add Joan Bennett for good measure, plus songs by Richard Rodgers and Lorenz Hart - "Soon", "Down By the River", "It's Easy to Remember". And a superbly sung version by the young Bing of Stephen Foster's "Swanee River".

Brief jottings could never do justice to this classic. Arthur Johnston and Johnny Burke wrote for Bing one of the great title songs of all time, as well as "One, Two, Button Your Shoe", "Let's Call a Heart a Heart" and the lovely "So Do I". There was Louis Armstrong, too, to help things swing memorably along.

Bing in one of his most 'natural' settings - the swaying palms and sunny beaches of Hawaii; Shirley Ross, steel guitars, comedy from Martha Raye and Bob Burns, and (among other evergreen tunes) "Sweet Leilani". A guaranteed formula for me.

Joan Blondell co-starred in this one, which also contained a delightfully wacky performance by Mischa Auer. And more fine songs, this time from the Jimmy Monaco-Johnny Burke team.

In addition to the formidable talents of Mr. C, this one had Mary Martin, Basil Rathbone and (making his screen debut) Oscar Levant. Some righteous sounds emanated from Wingy Mannone's Band and there were Monaco-Burke songs of the calibre of "Only Forever", "That's For Me" and "When the Moon Comes Over Madison Square".

One of Bing's greatest ever, in my opinion - again opposite Mary Martin. A lot of real jazz talents and much 'realistic' atmosphere recapturing the background to the music's pioneering days made this into an absolute gem in terms of sight and sound alike. Wonderful songs in abundance, plus superb trombone contributions from Jack Teagarden whose Orchestra graced the distinguished soundtrack. And some tasteful guitar-playing by Perry Botkin. (As a matter of interest, I've seen this film nine times so far and have high hopes of reaching double figures if BBC TV will oblige!)

My favourite of the delightful 'Road' series, though in truth I love 'em all. Beyond which further comment seems superfluous.

Although of comparatively recent vintage, this one nevertheless easily wins its place in any short list of outstanding Crosby screen memories. For further emphasis, see my remarks in December 1964s CROSBY POST.

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MOVIE REVIEW.....by LES PHYTHIAN

"HOLIDAY INN"

(BBC-1 Television. Thursday, 24th December 1964)

It was a happy thought on the part of BBC's programme planners to bring this delightful musical offering to our television screens on Christmas Eve. With a bright, well-varied Irving Berlin score - plus Bing and Fred Astaire in sparkling form - this lighthearted tale, built around the intriguing idea of an Inn that's open for business only on nationally-observed holidays in the American calendar, simply couldn't miss. Made in 1942, the film also happened to include a song called "White Christmas" which was destined to achieve, in the years that followed, the status of a modern but somehow timeless carol..... Apart from "Lazy" and "Easter Parade" (Berlin successes of earlier days which were here given memorable revivals) all the other numbers were specially composed for the movie; an attractive, tuneful selection sung mostly by Bing with his customary casual perfection and, where called for, considerable verve, solidly backed by the bright, swinging sounds of brother Bob's great Orchestra. Marjorie Reynolds supplied the major love interest - Virginia Dale making up the lively foursome - and the picture provided ample opportunities for an amusingly-handled supporting role by Walter Abel.

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"ROAD TO ZANZIBAR"

(BBC-1 Television. Sunday, 17th January, 1965)

Having obviously taken to heart Bing's Holiday Inn advice to "start the New Year right", BBC came up with this joyful item only a few weeks later. Any 'Road' film is sure of the warmest possible welcome, and this saga - chronicling the further adventures (and misadventures) of a certain well-known trio of characters - was no exception. The songs, by Jimmy Van Heusen and Johnny Burke were pleasant enough (although "Birds of a Feather" had disappeared from the soundtrack) while at least one of them - the lovely ballad, "It's Always You" - was a good deal more than that. Nothing, not even the tongue-in-cheek setting against which the song was presented, could conceal the fact that this is a very fine number indeed, particularly when delivered as here with all the remarkable vocal attributes at Bing's command. Comedy sequences followed rapidly upon one another, of course, and it was instructive to note that the numerous gags and quips exchanged by the intrepid travellers stood the test of time surprisingly well. The order of precedence in which you place your 'Road' films is naturally a strictly personal thing; for me Morocco remains the pick of the bunch, with Utopia next and Zanzibar third. But it really doesn't matter very much which one you judge to be 'tops' - they are all quite irresistible, happy object-lessons in the art of inconsequential entertainment..... So, for this pleasant opportunity to join the Crosby-Hope-Lamour triumvirate along the Road to Zanzibar once more, a heartfelt vote of thanks to all concerned..... A final piece of information which should be of interest to jazz-minded readers. You'll recall the scene where our two heroes are suddenly confronted by a couple of irate gents to whom Hope has just sold the phony diamond mine? Well, the large, ferocious-looking one (later described by Bing as "that big 7-foot character with the toad-stabber") was played by Charlie Mingus.

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